UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

Edmonton, December 5 - 31, 2013, Vol. LXXXVI №24 Price $1.75

Canada willing to discuss sanctions, says Baird

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Kyiv hosts OSCE meeting as protests continue

(RFE/RL/UkrNews)—Ukraine hosted top foreign diplomats as protests entered their 15th day over the government's rejection of an agreement on closer ties with the EU, as this issue of Ukrainian News went to press, Dec. 5.

Western diplomats, attending the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) foreign ministers' meeting in Kyiv urged the government to respect the protests.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Victoria Nuland said the government should "listen to the voices of its people."

"This is Ukraine's moment to meet the aspirations of its people or to disappoint them and risk descending into chaos and violence. What happens here matters to all of us and to this organization," Nuland added.

"And the voices of the Ukrainian people today echo those of so many who came before them, here and in other parts of the OSCE space throughout this organization's history."

Nuland was representing the United States after Secretary of State John Kerry skipped the meeting.

German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle, in an apparent reference to Russia, denounced as "simply unacceptable" what he called "the threats and the use of economic pressure" on Ukraine.

"We, Europeans, are looking to Ukraine. We are in no way indifferent to the fate of Ukraine and to the reaction at pro-European protests," he said. "This is an indicator for how the Ukrainian chair of the OSCE is commissioned to our common values."

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov denounced Western reaction to Ukraine's rejection of the EU deal as "hysterics."

"I want to again confirm our position that every issue should be dealt with within the constitutional framework. To be honest, we were very surprised by some of the speeches [delivered by OSCE ministers] this morning that missed the agenda of our gathering," Lavrov said.

"This is exactly that sort of finger-pointing that is not acceptable for the OSCE because it fundamentally clashes with the founding principles [of the organization] agreed upon 40 years ago."

Prime Minister Mykola Azarov said his government was ready for a dialogue with the opposition, but also denounced what he called "extremist forces" picketing government buildings in Kyiv.

"Obviously this is a temporary difficulty. And we say to those who are doing that — they are breaking the law," Azarov said.

"This is not a European path to development, and we are appealing to them to solve all disputed issues at the negotiating table."

The government's decision to suspend a long-anticipated Association Agreement with the EU Nov. 21, just days before the deal was supposed to be signed, sparked the biggest protests in Ukraine since the 2004 Orange Revolution.

The opposition is demanding the resignation of the government and an early election over the rejection, as well as over a violent police crackdown on demonstrators.

Several thousand protesters remained on Kyiv's Independence Square on Dec. 5, while others continued to besiege government buildings and opposition lawmakers blocked a regular parliamentary session.

The OSCE's representative on freedom of the media, Dunja Mijatovic, on Dec. 5 denounced the

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Publication Mail Agreement #40007679, paid at Edmonton, Alberta.

We acknowledge the inancial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

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FROM THE COLLECTION OF MARCO AND LESIA LEVYTSKY

"Madonna and Child" by the late Ukrainian Canadian artist Myron Levytsky. October marked the 100th anniversary of his birth and a number of retrospective exhibitions of his work were held both in Canada in Ukraine. For more on the Lviv exhibit, see the Ukrainian-language story on page 12 of this issue.

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ФОТО — БОГДАНИ ШЕВЧЕНКО

У центрі Києва, на майдані Незалежности та довкола нього зібралося не менше півмільйона людей.

«Зниклі діти» Євромайдану

Жанна Безп'ятчук,
адіо Свобода, 02.12.2013

Громадські активісти ініціативи «Євромайдан SOS» склали список постраждалих унаслідок розгону Євромайдану у ніч на 30 листопада. Близько 20 осіб значаться, як зниклі. Родичі та правозахисники досі не можуть встановити, де вони перебувають. Їх назвали «зниклими дітьми» Євромайдану. Тим часом у міліції радять чекати три дні й звертатися по допомогу за місцем проживання зниклих, а не місцем розгону Євромайдану.

Громадська ініціатива «Євромайдан SOS». Допомога постраждалим» склала список потерпілих і зниклих людей після розгону Євромайдану в ніч з 29 на 30 листопада.

Станом на сьому годину вечора 2 грудня за київським часом у цьому списку значаться 74 особи. Проти їхніх прізвищ стоять позначки «зник», «побили», «затриманий». Зі списком, складеним активістами, можна познайомитися в інтернеті. У «Фейсбук» також створена сторінка «Євромайдан SOS».

Журналіст і громадська активістка Ольга Євстигнєєва, яка відповідає на дзвінки, що надходять на гарячу лінію «Євромайдан SOS», розповідає, що з анонімних джерел надходить чимало інформації щодо зниклих після розгону Євромайдану людей, однак її вкрай важко перевірити.

«Чітких даних щодо безвісти зниклих немає і їх у принципі не може бути, оскільки цю інформацію дуже важко перевірити. Таких неперевірених фактів щодо смертей чи безвісти зниклих є дуже багато. Ми можемо лише перевірену інформацію постити на Фейсбуці або звертатися в Шевченківське РУВС. Проте всім потерпілим, які звертаються з приводу зникнення їхніх родичів, ми надаємо юридичні консультації, щоб вони не чекали довго, а зверталися в міліцію з приводу зникнення їхніх родичів», – наголошує активіст «Євромайдан SOS».

Активістка розповідає, що впродовж останніх днів і ночей вони отримують у середньому по два-три телефонні дзвінки від родичів і близьких тих, хто брав участь у протестних акціях і постраждав чи не виходить на зв'язок. Але ще більше дзвінків вони отримують від волонтерів, юристів та психологів, готових допомогти потерпілим, люди також телефонують, щоб перерахувати гроші чи запропонувати речі й продукти для тих, хто міг би їх зараз потребувати.

Громадський правозахисник Зоряна Христина говорить про те, що три дні, які міліція каже чекати родичам зниклих, перш ніж звертатися до них і давати справі офіційний статус, – це «юридичний міф». Юридично ніхто не може вимагати чекати три дні, перш ніж почати розшук зниклих, наголошує юрист. Крім того, вона наголошує на важливості поширення інформації про те, кого затримала і вже відпустила міліція. Декого з них шукають родичі.

«Люди поділяються на дві категорії: ті, хто просто отримав тілесні ушкодження, і ті, хто притягаються до кримінальної чи адміністративної відповідальності. Якщо говорити про тих, хто отримав ушкодження, то вони можуть подати свою заяву щодо вчинення злочину проти них. Щодо тих людей, яких просто зловили за руку і відвезли в СІЗО, то про них знаємо лише опосередковано, зокрема через адвокатів, які перебувають у відділку і беруть там списки затриманих, тому що їх шукають родичі», – пояснює правозахисниця.

Речниця головного управління МВС у Києві Ольга Білик на запитання Радіо Свобода про те, чи зверталися до них громадяни України щодо зникнення своїх близьких після розгону Євромайдану на світанку 30 листопада або ж після сутичок під Адміністрацією президента, відповіла, що звертатися вони повинні не за місцем затримання, а за місцем проживання. Тобто якщо це львів'яни, приміром, то про них мають заявляти до львівської міліції.

«Враховуючи, що не більшість, але принаймні частина цих людей, які сюди приїздили, не є мешканцями міста Києва, то, я думаю, якщо і є звернення, то від родичів за місцем проживання», – заявила речниця київської міліції.

І поки міліція дотримується такого порядку прийняття звернень громадян, вчора на Євромайдані під стелею розмістили плакат під назвою «Пропавші діти» (зниклі діти), де вказано вісім прізвищ. Одна з них, Інна Калюжна, на щастя, вже знайшлася, про місцеперебування інших поки що офіційно нічого не відомо.

Також Євромайдан облетіло фото дівчини, яка лежала на землі під ударами кийків Беркута. Ширилася чутка, що дівчина могла загинути. На щастя, Радіо Свобода через соціальні мережі розшукало цю дівчину. Її звати Ірина Коцюбинська. Ось що вона нам розповіла: «Травмована була, але не надто сильно, тож до медиків не зверталася».

Вранці 30 листопада, як тільки з'явився зв'язок, дівчина повідомила близьким, де перебуває.

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Protests continue

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violence against journalists during the police crackdown on demonstrators. About 40 Ukrainian and international journalists were assaulted and injured during the police action.

"I'm also confident, and I hope that — [as] several investigations into beatings have been opened by the prosecutor — that the perpetrators will be brought to justice very soon," Mijatovic said.

Meanwhile, President Viktor Yanukovych, who is on an official visit to China, said that deals signed with Beijing may bring in about $8 billion in much-needed investment in Ukraine.

When Yanukovych froze the long-anticipated agreement with the EU, he said Ukraine could not afford the likely damage it would cause to its close trade ties with Russia, which had opposed the deal.

The EU has said it is ready to receive a Ukrainian delegation — at Yanukovych's request — to discuss aspects of the implementation of the Association Agreement, but will not renegotiate the accord.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso "confirmed our readiness to receive such a delegation and to discuss the various aspects of the implementation of the Association Agreement, obviously together with the Deep and Comprehensive Free-Trade Area part," Maja Kocijancic, EU foreign-policy chief Catherine Ashton's spokeswoman, told RFE/RL's Brussels correspondent on Dec. 5.

"And to prepare this visit [of such a delegation], we will have a technical meeting today to set the ground for the meeting that President Barroso and President Yanukovych talked about."

Meanwhile, Ukraine's jailed former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko on Dec. 5 called on Western countries to impose sanctions against Yanukovych, saying sanctions are "the only language he understands."

Two days earlier the Ukrainian parliament on rejected a no-confidence vote against the government.

The motion, initiated by the opposition, received 186 of the 226 votes necessary to pass. As expected, the ruling Party of Regions did not support the motion and did not vote.

Thousands of protesters who had gathered outside the parliament building on Dec. 3 greeted the result of the vote with shouts of "Shame!" and "Revolution!"

Before the vote, Azarov apologized for a brutal police crackdown on weekend protests. He also promised to reshuffle his government.

The opposition has vowed to continue the protests. Arseniy Yatsenyuk, the leader of the opposition Batkivshchyna faction, said the opposition will also ask Yanukovych to fire the cabinet. He also urged supporters to picket the presidential administration building.

The opposition holds 170 seats in parliament, and independents control another 35 in the 450-seat body. Prior to the vote, the ruling Party of Regions was losing some support. At least three of its parliament deputies have quit over the government's handling of the crisis.

One of them, Inna Bohoslovska, a former vocal supporter of Yanukovych, on Dec. 2 urged other legislators to leave the party.

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PHOTO – BOHDANA SHEVCHENKO

Victim of police brutality

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Hon. Gene Zwozdesky

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Почесні консули засуджують брутальне побиття

Заява Почесних консулів України в США з приводу різкого повороту єврокурсу Президента та спонтанних Євромайданів в Україні

Ми почесні консули України у США висловлюєм щире здивування з приводу раптового призупинення євроінтеграційного процесу України заявою прем'єра Азарова, а також глибоке обурення щодо брутального побиття молодих учасників всенародного Євромайдану в Києві. Ми засуджуємо використання силових методів для здушення мирного користування конституційними правами.

Дії української влади, які суперечать Законові України про зовнішню політику щодо інтеграції в ЄС та євроатлантичні системи колективної безпеки, викликали справедливе здивування з боку політиків міжнародного співтовариства і збурили українське суспільство до тієї міри, що в Києві та багатьох містах України постали протестні Євромайдани. Незгоду з поверненням Києва у сферу диктованого впливу Москви висловили сотні тисяч українських громадян, які на всенародному майдані здійснюють пряму демократії. Виправдувальні аргументи президента В. Януковича, озвучені на саміті ЄС у Вільнюсі для реалізації програми Східного партнерства, суперечать національним інтересам України. А заклик президента спільно сісти за переговорний стіл з Єврокомісією у надуманому форматі ЄС, Російська Федерація й Україна, тоді коли це справа виключно двосторонніх переговорів, серйозно підважує державний суверенітет України й повертає українську державу в політичну залежність від сусідньої держави-гегемона, що є згубним для незалежного розвитку України.

Влада, яка своїми діями відчужилася від народу, тим самим змусила народ вийти на вулиці та майдани з протестом. Молодь усієї держави й опозиційні сили відкрито виражають свою незгоду з політикою капітуляції влади й закликають український політикум до зміни курсу й відставки уряду. На ці демократичні вимоги опозиційних політиків, а теж на конституційне право громадян на свободу слова й мирних зібрань та протестів, влада мовчала й дала лише одну відповідь: брутальне побиття «берківцями» безборонної української молоді. Разом із тим владні сили організували явно провокації з метою перетворити мирні демонстрації у силові протистояння.

Тоді коли усе українське суспільство й впливові політики демократичного світу однодушно засудили застосування брутальної сили «беркутівців» проти мирних демонстрантів, влада відмовчувалася, тихцем вибачалася, але не засудила антиконституційної природи свавільних дій силових структур проти безборонних мітингувальників.

Відмова від підписання уже готової – в результаті тривалих переговорів Києва з Брюсселем - Угоди про асоціяцію з ЄС і зону вільної торгівлі, яку український народ гостро й рішуче засуджує, є достатньою причиною для відставки уряду прем'єра Азарова. Разом із кризою фракції «Партії регіонів», яку почали покидати обурені й незгідні народні депутати, опозиційна коаліція у ВРУ покликана створити оновлену виконавчу структуру й накреслити програму реформ, яка має задовольнити головні вимоги, висловлених на Євромайдані в Києві та по всій Україні: відновлення євроінтеграційнонго процесу, готувати нові вибори – як президентські, так і парламентські, докорінно реформувати соціально-економічну систему в державі.

Ми з українським народом який має право висловитися без страху переслідування, а тим більше фізичного побиття.

Від дій чинної, але не проваленої влади залежатиме наша готовність надалі виконувати повноваження Почесних консулів у США й служити інтересам українського народу та демократичної держави.

Дано: 2 грудня 2013 року
Тарас Варварів
– Почесний консул України, Штат Арізона
Богдан Федорак
– Почесний консул України, Штат Мічеган
Андрій Футей
– Почесний консул України, Штат Огайо

У солідарність з учасниками Євромайданів Тимошенко оголошує голодування

Заява Юлії Тимошенко

- Я щаслива, що сотні тисяч українців вийшли на Євромайдани в Україні по всьому світі. Вийшли, щоб не дозволити правлячій мафії вбити наш європейський вибір, зламати наше життя.

Я горда відчувати себе частиною такого величного та сильного народу, який зміг здобути державну незалежність та зберегти її попри все, зміг пережити голодомор та радянські тортури, зміг піднятися, вибороти свою свободу під час Помаранчевої революції та знайшов в собі сили повстати сьогодні на всіх Європейських майданах, щоб знову перемагати.

Я люблю вас, мої Нескорені українці, всією силою своєї душі та вірю в усі ваші майбутні перемоги!

Ви – моє натхнення, моя надія, моя гордість, мої сили для життя.

Мені боляче, що я не можу зараз фізично бути разом з вами, що не можу зараз разом з вами дихати святим повітрям єдності, свободи та боротьби, який завжди був на нашому Майдані. Але, попри грати, кожна моя часточка зараз разом з вами живе та вірить в нашу Перемогу!

На знак єдності та солідарності з усіма, хто зараз бореться на всіх Євромайданах в Україні та в світі, я оголошую безстрокове голодування з вимогою до Януковича підписати угоду про асоціацію та зону вільної торгівлі з ЄС.

Я прошу вас, мої рідні Українці, щодня примножувати наші сили на Майданах. Я прошу вас підняти небачену по своєму масштабу лавину нашої волі та сили до такого рівня, щоб авторитарна мафія Януковича не змогла завадити нашому історичному, святому возз'єднанню з нашою справжньою цивілізаційною родиною від якої ми були відлучені сотні років.

Не відступайте! Не дайте їм зламати наше життя! Йдіть вперед та перемагайте!

У України велике майбутнє, бо в України є всі ви!

А якщо 29 листопада Янукович не підпише нашу угоду з ЄС, зметіть його з обличчя України мирним та конституційним шляхом разом з його політичними та корупційними метастазами! Не зупиняйтеся! Тільки вперед!

Україна – це Європа!
Слава Україні!
Юлія Тимошенко,
Харків, 25 листопада 2013 року

Чоловік Тимошенко закликав до санкцій проти Януковича

(Радіо Свобода)—Олександр Тимошенко, чоловік колишнього прем'єр-міністра, ув'язненої Юлії Тимошенко, виступив 28 листопада на Євромайдані у Празі, столиці Чехії, де він отримав притулок, із закликом до санкцій проти керівництва України через його відступ від євроінтеграції.

Він підтримав петицію до адміністрації президента США Барака Обами, під якою нині збираються підписи на сайті Білого дому, з вимогою запровадити персональні санкції проти президента України Віктора Януковича і членів Кабінету міністрів України та членів їхніх родин, а саме накласти заборону на в'їзд їм до США, а також до ЄС, і заморозити рахунки пов'язаних із ними компаній.

Петиція до адміністрації президента США, опублікована 26 листопада. 29 листопада о 6:20 вечора за Вашінгтонським часом, петиція набрала потрібних 100,000 підписів, щоб Білий дім був зобов'язаний розглянути її.

«Ми не хочемо брати участі у здійсненні імперських амбіцій нашого великого східного сусіда. Наш історичний вибір і правильний шлях розвитку повинен бути разом із європейською сім'єю. І в цьому наше завдання – змусити владу України поглянути на це питання з точки зору не своїх особистих інтересів, а інтересів кожного українця і країни в цілому», – сказав Олександр Тимошенко.

За його Тимошенка, понад 70 відсотків громадян України підтримують європейський шлях розвитку країни.

Canada willing to discuss sanctions, says Baird

By Marco Levytsky

Canada is willing to discuss personal sanctions against those responsible for the violence against protestors in Ukraine, but has not made any decision yet, says Foreign Minister John Baird.

"In my meetings with the opposition, civil society and other groups, this did come up on several occasions about sanctioning those people who had been responsible for the violence against peaceful protesters and journalists. Obviously, I'm here meeting with these groups to listen. I just finished those meetings in the last hour, so it would be premature for me to come to a conclusion. Obviously, I look forward to talking with like-minded allies tomorrow, especially my colleagues, foreign ministers of Germany, Sweden and Norway, but at this stage, yes, we've – you know, there's certainly talk of that, but it's not something with which Canada has pronounced.," he said responding to a question from Ukrainian News Editor Marco Levytsky during a teleconference from Kyiv, Dec. 4.

Baird was in Kyiv to participate in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Ministerial Council, held Dec. 5-6.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress has called for such sanctions.

"We thank the Government of Canada for their strong condemnation of the actions by the government of Ukraine. We ask all western governments to immediately impose targeted economic sanctions against those individuals responsible for these human rights abuses in Ukraine, including the freezing of assets and restrictions on visas," stated UCC National President Paul Grod in a media release issued Nov. 30. Grod accompanied Minister Baird on his visit.

An online petition on the website of the White House has called for direct sanctions against President Viktor Yanukovych and his government. The petition was stared on November 26 in response to Yanukovych's decision to scrap the Association Agreement with the European Union and by 6:40 pm Washington time (4:40 pm MST) had gathered the necessary 100,000 signatures needed to ensure the White House will consider it and give an official response.

Earlier on Dec. 4, Baird met with religious leaders, business people and other Canadian connections as well as the three principal opposition leaders and the foreign minister of Ukraine, Leonid Kozahara.

"Obviously, Canada has expressed its deep disappointment in the Ukrainian government's decision to suspend preparations for the signing of the association agreement and deep comprehensive free trade area with the European Union. We believe the decision represents a significant lost opportunity in Ukraine's path towards strengthened economic development and economic prosperity. This agreement would have embraced the values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law in this country and would have created a more transparent rule-based and liberalized marketplace, transforming and developing Ukraine's economy," he said.

Baird also raised the issue of the recent violence in Kyiv.

"I expressed Canada's deep concern and deep disappointment at the violence initiated and encouraged that those responsible be brought to justice and encourage the government to facilitate a dialogue with the opposition, not just on accountability for the violence, but also on a dialogue on democratic action in advance of the 2015 elections. Obviously, we stand strongly on the issue of freedom and are tremendously concerned about the violence against protesters, many of which were students, and the violence against journalism."

Asked by Kontakt Television's Jurij Klufas how Kozhara responded, Baird stated: "He related to me the government's analysis and perspective on what had happened with respect to the protests. I encouraged him to ensure that those responsible for the violence, particularly with respect to the students, protesters and violence against journalists, were brought to justice and there was some confidence in the independent process that could adjudicate that and I encouraged him to facilitate a dialogue in – with the opposition, with respect to the integrity in the run-up to the 2015 elections. He obviously gave the government's perspective which is well-known and obviously which causes Canada concern."

In an earlier statement issued Nov. 21, the day Ukraine announced the suspension of talks over the EU agreement, Baird stated: "I personally spoke with Ukrainian Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara on November 15 to urge Ukraine to sign this agreement. It is particularly disappointing that the Yanukovych government has since made a decision to turn its back on the exhaustive efforts that the European Union and all of Ukraine's Western partners, including Canada, have made to help Ukraine fulfill its European aspirations.

"The Government of Canada is likewise very troubled that Ukrainian authorities have not taken the necessary steps to address selective justice in the case of imprisoned Ukrainian opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko. This continues to hamper Ukraine's democratic development, as a legitimate and active opposition is a vital part of a vibrant and effective democracy," he added.

Христос Раждається!

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Former presidents back protesters

(RFE/RL)—Ukraine's three former presidents have released a statement of support for protests in Ukraine sparked by a decision to suspend talks on an agreement with the European Union.

Leonid Kravchuk, Leonid Kuchma, and Viktor Yushchenko co-authored the statement, posted on Yushchenko's party website on Dec. 4, that said, "We express solidarity with the peaceful civic actions of hundreds of thousands of young Ukrainians."

It also noted, "For the first time, the Ukrainian people have come out on the streets with a demand that has unprecedented mass support."

The statement condemned the "excessive use of force" by police against protesters at rallies in Kyiv and called on the government to consider "the European yearnings of the Ukrainian people."

The three presidents' statement also warned that "the crisis is deepening and we see risks of losing control over the situation."

The next day German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle visited the demonstrators alongside opposition leader and boxing champion Vitaliy Klitschko, and opposition figure and former minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, Dec. 5.

Westerwelle said the European Union's door remains open to Ukraine, despite the government's decision last month not to sign EU association and trade pacts but instead pursue closer ties to neighboring power Russia.

The government's action has triggered the largest mass protests in Ukraine since the 2004 Orange Revolution.

"Europe is not indifferent to the fate of Ukraine," said Westerwelle, who traveled to Kyiv for a meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. "We are promoting European values and the door to Europe remains open."

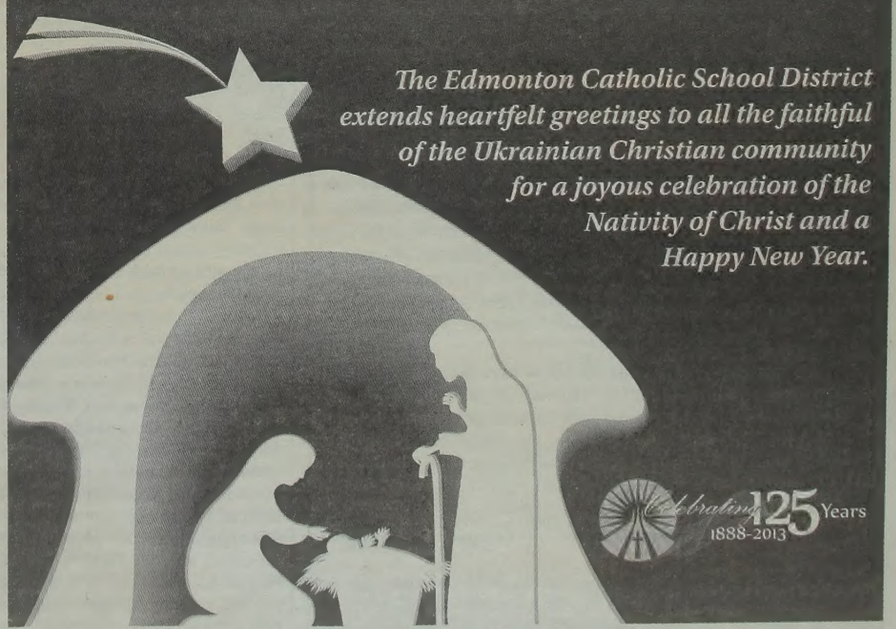
In another development, U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry reiterated the backing of the United States.

Kerry, on a visit to Chisinau on Dec. 4, praised Moldova for signing partnership deals with the EU.

In an apparent reference to Russian influence, Kerry said Ukrainians, like Moldovans, had a right to choose their own future.

Wishing you a Blessed Christmas
from the Board of Trustees and Staff of Edmonton Catholic Schools

The Edmonton Catholic School District extends heartfelt greetings to all the faithful of the Ukrainian Christian community for a joyous celebration of the Nativity of Christ and a Happy New Year.



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UKRAINIAN NEWS
УКРАЇНСЬКІ ВІСТІ

PO Box 38006 RPO Capilano
Edmonton, Alberta, T6A 3Y6

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Publisher:
Canadian Cryptics Ltd.
President: Marco Levytsky
Editor: Marco Levytsky
Subscriptions: Lesia Levytsky

Ukrainian News is published bi-weekly by *Edmonton Lasergraphics, A Division of Canadian Cryptics Ltd.* Yearly subscription $40.00.

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We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Canada Periodical Fund (CPF) for our publishing activities and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

Canada Shevchenko Foundation

Yanukovych must go!

What has become very clear in the past few weeks is that President Viktor Yanukovych and the government of Prime Minister Nikolai Azarov have not only lost the confidence of the people of Ukraine – they have betrayed the people of Ukraine and they have initiated violence against the people of Ukraine.

The decision to suspend preparations for the Association Agreement represents a significant lost opportunity in Ukraine's path towards strengthened economic development and economic prosperity. This agreement would have embraced the values of freedom, democracy, human rights and the rule of law and would have created a more transparent rule-based and liberalized marketplace, transforming and developing Ukraine's economy.

Instead, bowing to pressure from his master in Moscow, Yanukovych decided to look to Russia, the country which enslaved Ukraine for over 300 years and committed heinous acts of genocide against its people.

By ordering Berkut troops to attack peaceful protestors in Kyiv, Yanukovych and company have demonstrated their contempt for the people of Ukraine and their determination to hold on at all costs to the power which allows them to wallow in corruption.

But it is any surprise that such violence was unleashed. Let us not forget that during the 2004 Orange Revolution Yanukovych wanted to use force against the peaceful demonstrators. However, then-President Leonid Kuchma held him on a tight leash. That leash isn't there anymore and there are no limits on how far Yanukovych is prepared to go in order to maintain his dictatorial rule.

It`s time for Yanukovych and Azarov to go – be it voluntarily or involuntarily. A non-confidence vote in Ukraine`s parliament on Dec. 2 failed to get the necessary votes because not enough Region Party rats are yet ready to leave the sinking ship. But that may come.

In scrapping the EU agreement, Yanukovych not only enraged the Western Ukrainians who never supported him in the first place, but he also angered the Eastern oligarchs who have kept him in power. Having accumulated massive wealth through dubious means, they know well that the road to legitimacy lies through Europe. Not unlike the 19th century "robber barons" in the United States, Ukraine's oligarch long for legitimacy, which is why a number have begun to dabble in philanthropic acts. On the other hand, closer ties with Moscow means only one thing – falling under Vladimir Putin's rapacious grip and with that the possible loss not only of property, but of personal freedom as well. Moreover, Yanukovych's own extreme greed is upsetting the apple cart and alienating many oligarchs. It is time for them to act and to put the squeeze on Yanukovych to resign.

Canada and other Western governments have been united both in expressing their deep concern about Ukraine's decision to suspend the EU agreement and in condemning the brutal violence that Yanukovych's shock troops have inflicted on peaceful students, journalists and protestors. But more can be done. All western governments should immediately impose targeted economic sanctions against those individuals responsible for these human rights abuses in Ukraine, including the freezing of assets and restrictions on visas. Chief among these is none other than Yanukovych himself.

Perhaps one of the most overused phrases in recent years has been "Ukraine is at the crossroads", but this most certainly applies today. And these are the most dangerous crossroads since independence. One road leads to a peaceful orderly resolution to this crisis and the transformation to a stable democratic state, the other to dictatorship, foreign occupation, more violence and even the unthinkable spectre of civil war.

Putin and the New World Order

Ukraine shows the West it has yet to win the Cold War

By Mark Semotiuk

With the growth of China and India the world is currently undergoing an unprecedented shift in economic power from West to East. As a corollary, a similar yet less visible shift is occurring geopolitically. In the last decade this latter shift accelerated as Vladimir Putin, Russia's autocratic President, pivoted from Western integration to Eastern expansion.

The problem with this pivot was that it came at an ideological cost. Rather than open Russia to democracy, Putin began to rebuild an autocratic empire. In fact, Russia's move away from democracy has been so severe that the former National Security Advisor of the United States likened Putin to Hitler.

The analogy is quite striking. Compare, for example, Putin's persecution of homosexuals ahead of the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics with Hitler's persecution of the Jewish minority during the 1936 Berlin Olympics. Or, consider that both rose to power mostly through democratic means and then brutally began to consolidate power by outlawing all competing political parties, all non-nationalized media, and then controlling the judiciary. Or, contrast how both grew their territorial holdings with land grabs justified by ethnic and nationalistic means (Hitler with Czechoslovakia in 1938 and Putin with Georgia in 2008). Somewhat ironically, Hitler was named Time's Man of the Year in 1938 and Putin was Forbes' Most Powerful Man in 2013.

As Putin's power increases and the world settles into new spheres of influence, the West must act to ensure that Russia will not be in a position to dictate. Putin recently showed the world how powerful he has become by flexing his muscle in Syria, while simultaneously shaming the United States through a New York Times Op-Ed (on September 11th of all days).

The current revolution in Ukraine may determine the extent to which Russia may challenge U.S. and European influence for the next generation. It is not a coincidence that the United States first publicly recognized the multi-polar world in a 2009 speech by Joe Biden in Ukraine.

Ukraine is the second largest country in Europe in land mass (behind only Russia) and the seventh largest in population (about on par with Spain). It has ample natural resources, a highly educated, diligent workforce, and an advantageous geographical position.

The significance of Ukraine to most Europeans is due to energy, or more precisely gas. The EU imports about 20% of its gas from Russia on pipelines that flow through Ukraine. Ukraine also depends on Russia for about 30% of its gas supply. Russia is able to wield substantial influence over Ukraine via its control of Ukrainian gas supplies. This influence was most visible in 2010 when during a gas dispute the Russian President was able to extract a lease extension for Russia's Black Sea Fleet on Ukrainian territory until 2042.

Russia's Black Sea Fleet is the crown jewel of Russia's Navy. It provides Russia with naval power over the Mediterranean and Indian Oceans. It also gives Russia a platform from which to launch offensive naval manoeuvres. Losing this fleet would be a major setback for Russia's influence around the world and particularly over the Middle East.

Beyond the Black Sea Fleet, Russia's military also depends on Ukraine. For example, many of the intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICMBS) that form the key of Russia's strategic nuclear forces were manufactured in Ukraine. These ICBMS and other military technologies require spare parts and maintenance that only Ukrainians can provide.

Most significantly, however, Ukraine is a symbol of democratic progress in Eastern Europe. As long as Ukraine is free and democratic, the parties in Russia that oppose Putin can point to their neighbours in the West and say: "if Ukraine can have freedom, then so can Russia." The idea that peaceful democratic revolutions may succeed could be the best possible way to curb Putin's influence.

The Association Agreement represented an expansion of democracy and stability in Europe that first began in 2004. At that time, although Ukraine was an independent country, the old power structures of the Soviet Union still existed. Just as Putin was able to suppress opposition parties in Russia, the current Ukrainian President, Viktor Yanukovych was consolidating power in Ukraine by falsifying elections.

But in November of 2004, about nine years ago, a stunning thing happened. In what was dubbed the "Orange Revolution," hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians peacefully poured out into the streets demanding new free and fair elections. The protests were so powerful that new elections were held and Yanukovych was voted out of office.

A lesson that Ukrainians soon learned after the Orange Revolution was that asking for free and fair elections was not enough. Although the opposition had won the Presidency, the old power structures still remained in place and Yanukovych remained influential in Parliament. In 2008 Ukraine was hard hit by the financial crisis and the Ukrainians blamed the incumbent President. As a consequence Ukrainians narrowly voted Yanukovych back into power in 2010 in contested elections.

Yanukovych won because he presented himself as a different man who would listen to the people. He would work to integrate Ukrainians with the European Union as many Ukrainians wanted. Yanukovych's first flight was not to Russia, but to Brussels, and in 2010 negotiations on the Association Agreement began.

But old habits die hard. Soon after being elected, Yanukovych once again began to consolidate power. Journalists began to suddenly disappear. He jailed the opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko in what the European Court of Human Rights labeled "Selective Justice."

The release of Tymoshenko was one of the conditions of entering into the Association Agreement. Further, among other things, the agreement called for reforming Ukraine's judiciary, modernizing Ukraine's economy to meet EU standards, and creating an EU-Ukraine free trade area. Ukraine's entry into the agreement came after four years of intense negotiations and was supposed to be a validation of the EU's eastern policy. But everyone underestimated Putin.

On November 9 just over two weeks before Yanukovych was to sign the Association Agreement, he flew to Russia to meet with Putin. Putin had already started to undermine the Association Agreement. He had imposed a trade boycott on Ukraine in August and threatened to take further action if the agreement was signed. He was able to offer lower gas prices and to write off debts Ukraine owes Russia. He also allegedly offered his support to Yanukovych to rig the 2015 Presidential elections.

In the last minute, Yanukovych demanded that the EU provide Ukraine with approximately $160 Billion in support. This is the cost that Yanukovych estimated that Ukraine would have to bear due to Putin's retaliatory measures. When the EU declined, Yanukovych walked away from the EU and towards Putin.

In conclusion, the protests you see in Ukraine today aren't only about the Association Agreement. They are about freeing Ukraine from the old Soviet power structures, including Putin's unjust influence. The protests seem different than the protests of the Orange Revolution because the people recognize that free and fair elections are not enough, the old power structures must change. The protesters are fighting tyranny and people's freedom hangs in the balance. To the U.S. and Europe, the protests symbolize that the Cold War has not yet fully been won.

To quote Ronald Regan: "I urge you to beware the temptation of pride… to ignore the facts of history and the aggressive impulses of an evil empire… and thereby [to] remove yourself from the struggle between right and wrong and good and evil." The front line of the struggle is being fought in the streets of Ukraine today – and Ukrainians need your support.

Edmonton native Mark Semotiuk is a Fordham University Law Student currently studying European Union Law in Paris at Pantheon-Assas (Paris II). Semotiuk has been an international election observer in Ukraine on multiple occasions.

Sign or resign

By Oksana Bashuk Hepburn

If I could talk to Ukraine's President Victor Yanukovych this is what I would tell him.

Having carefully read your statement to the Ukrainian people declining responsibility for the bloody attack by special forces on peaceful demonstrators on Kyiv's Maidan Nezalezhnosty, in the death of night on November 30, I do not accept it. More importantly, the people of Ukraine are not absolving you from this needless brutality. It symbolizes your complete disregard for the well being of your people. Now the whole country is against you. And you brought it down on yourself.

The bloody beatings, hospitalization, cracked heads and the unknown whereabouts of six demonstrators is untenable. It galvanized hundreds of thousands of demonstrators on Nov. 30 attesting to the poisoned atmosphere in Ukraine caused by your bad leadership. The people are fed up with the enormous gaps between your regimes' words and deeds; between the rich and the poor; the inability to lead what they call "normal" lives due to oppression and corruption; and, above all, your rejection of their will. The last straw was your badly conceived failure to sign for European integration in Vilnius. But instead of listening to the demonstrators' voices "sign now" you sent Berkut agents, at four in the morning when only some 100 kids remained on Maidan, to brutalize them. The oldest was just twenty. The pretext for clearing the Square was to erect a Christmas tree: How perverse! Shame on you for this abomination.

As president you are responsible for peace, justice and good government but you have been misgoverning since you came to power. First, by ceding control of the defence and security apparatus to Russia then by backsliding on democracy, disregarding the rule of law, systematizing corruption, squashing human rights especially for the media and organizers of peaceful assemblies. You are devoted to persecuting any opposition to your dictates, the most significant and visible being the illegal incarceration of your nemesis Yulia Tymoshenko who "lost" the election to you by a mere 3%. You're obsessed with the need to destroy her; you have risked too much to put and keep her illegally in jail. You even turned your back on Europe in Vilnius despite promising the opposite. That was the last straw. She retaliated with a grand gesture calling on the EU to choose Ukraine over her health and freedom. Then she declared a hunger strike while calling opposition leaders to take political power into their hands and Ukraine flared up in a revolt against you and your ilk.

The world condemns your actions. Some of your Regional Party insiders do as well. Your Chief of the President's Administration, Serhij Levochkin has quit so did Inna Bohoslovska and David Zhvannija. The chief of police in Kyiv has submitted his resignation. Berkut, in Lviv, refuses to stand against the demonstrators. The first secretary serving in Canada has resigned. The head of Ukraine's small businesses is calling members to support a national strike. Your cities, like Kaluzh, are declaring themselves "Non-Yanukovych zones". Despite your odious Minister of Education's decree — you failed to heed the people's repeated demands for Dmytro Tabachnyk's resignation — that striking students will lose their scholarships, university rectors are supporting their protests. Throughout Ukraine universities are closed and students are on the street with those hundreds of thousands fed up with your bad government. Imagine how many more are still at home.

Many believe that you betrayed Ukraine years ago. As soon as you became president you passed the control of the defence and security apparatus to Russia. Was it payment for making you president? Only last week you stated that further EU integration discussions need to include Russia. The European Union dismissed this nonsense but you, sir, are a traitor.

Many say that you are calling in foreign strongmen against your own people. The hundreds of tanks moved near Lviv are real and what about the cargo planes carrying Russian armed personnel? You are afraid that like Lviv's Berkut other Ukrainians security services will side with the people and you will be alone.

Clearly, you are not wanted in Ukraine. Around the globe governments, the media and individual democrats are siding with the protestors. The petition to the United States to slap sanctions on assets owned by you and other criminal oligarchs and to deny entry visa, has far surpassed the required hundred thousand signatures. Other countries are being urged to do the same. The EU, United States, Canada and their ambassadors in Ukraine — as well as others — are condemning your behavior. The calls for your resignation are getting stronger.

You have created a mess, Mr. President. You need to fix it. Sign or resign.

Oksana Bashuk Hepburn, a former Canadian government executive, is a founding member of the Canadian Group for Democracy in Ukraine.

Canadian students express solidarity with Ukraine

Joint Statement by World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations (SKUMO) Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK)
Ottawa & Waterloo, Ontario, Canada – November 29, 2013 Open Letter to the Young People & Students of Ukraine

This morning we learned that Ukraine's President, Viktor Yanukovych, failed to sign the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement at the 3rd Eastern Partnership Summit held in Vilnius, Lithuania. Though expected as a result of directive No. 905 of November 21st of the Cabinet of Ministers, we had all hoped common sense and justice would prevail.

By taking this decision, the government of Ukraine has forsaken the collective future of all its people, and especially that of its young. It has chosen to ignore the democratic will of its citizens and has offered very limited rationale for its foolish verdict. We know that Ukraine's youth yearn for freedom, prosperity, and true democratic institutions. They seek the right to grow up in a society that allows them to reach their full potential. By all objective measures, this can only be achieved through the European choice. Delay or the exploration of alternate customs arrangements will only further hinder Ukraine's rightful path of development.

Over 20 million Ukrainians reside outside the territory of Ukraine. A large majority of this group calls the collective West its home. We well understand what the civilization choice Ukraine is facing represents. This is especially so in the areas of economic prosperity, academic freedom, and social mobility. This is why we believe you have no alternative but to continue demanding that your government reverse its course, whatever the cost.

As leaders of the global Ukrainian youth diaspora residing in approximately 47 countries around the globe and the largest Ukrainian students' union outside Ukraine, we not only salute, but join you in solidarity. We reaffirm our support and we want you to know that we have, and will, continue organizing and participating in "Euromaidans" in foreign capitals and cities around the world.

We know the coming weeks will be more difficult than ever — know that we admire your determination, resilience, and strength. We look on with pride as you strike, organize protests and march all across Ukraine. We ask that you do not despair and do not accept tyranny — these are not overwhelming odds and there is great hope in your future. It is clear to all of us that sooner or later, Ukraine will take its rightful place within the European family of nations. This is only a matter of time. Glory to Ukraine!

On behalf of the global SKUMO Executive, On behalf of the SUSK National Executive,
Danylo Korbabicz Christine Czoli Executive Vice-President President World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Waterloo, Ontario, Canada past president

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December is a month of anticipation within our culture, leading up to Christmas on December 25. Everywhere we are inundated with 'seasonal' music and decorations, frequently designed to encourage people to spend money on gifts.

But there's more to Christmas than commercialism. Christmas refers to the birth of Jesus Christ, who is accepted by Christians as the Son of God, born on Christmas Day, crucified on Good Friday and resurrected on Easter Sunday. The holiday is tied to a specific event in history that is celebrated in December. There are many who don't believe Christ is God, believing instead he was a prophet or wise man, but there is no dispute he is the reason for the season.

There are other holidays in December of course, such as Hanukkah, but they have not had the same impact on our society as Christmas. Our tradition of gift giving began with the first Christmas and the gifts of the Magi and continued through the work of St. Nicholas (Santa Claus) in the fourth century to our Christmas gift-giving today.

That is why it seems well-meaning but rather misguided to replace the sending of Christmas cards with 'holiday' cards, or to wish someone 'happy holidays' or 'season's greetings' instead of saying 'Merry Christmas.' It looks like an attempt to avoid the fact that Christmas is about Christ, as if bringing his name into it somehow makes many people uncomfortable.

The message of Christmas, of 'peace on earth and good will to all' remains just as universal today as when it was first proclaimed. There is no reason to remove Christ from Christmas. Save the 'happy holidays' for a different time of year.

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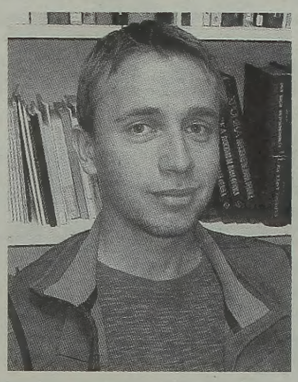
Студент з Чехії спростовує неґативне зображення УПА

Оксана Закидальська

У вересні ц.р. до Українсько-Канадського Дослідчо-Документаційного Центру (УКДДЦ) завітав Марек Фанта, 23-літний студент історії Градецького університету в Кралове, Чехії. Ціль його відвідин — знайти матеріяли про УПА, прослухати записані інтерв'ю в архівах УКДДЦ із бувшими членами УПА і, по можливості, зустрітися з деякими бувшими упівцями які живуть в Торонті.

В своїй бакалаврівській роботі Марек Фанта відтворив образ УПА представлений в чехословацькій пресі, зокрема в статтях про рейди УПА на Чехословаччині. Рейд — швидке пересування у ворожому терені військових частин або партизанських загонів. Рейди УПА на Чехословаччині почалися влітку 1945 і їх ціль була пропаганда — розголосити по світі визвольну боротьбу українців. Західні народи мали дуже слабі і тільки спорадичні відомості про те, що діялося в СССР і рейди в Чехословаччині подали перші інформації про визвольні рухи на теренах СССР.

До 1947 року, чехословацька преса ще не була контрольована СССР. В Чехословаччині була



Марек Фанта

багатопартійна система і виходили опозиційні газети. Зате, репортажі про рейди УПА подавали перекручені інформації та неприхильний образ УПА. Називали УПА антисемітами, українською бандою, терористами, колишніми членами армії Власова. А коли, після 1947, Чехословаччину захопила совєтська влада, образ воїнів УПА став ще більш негативним.

Марек Фанта сказав, що навіть сьогодні, тому що загальну інформацію про визвольний рух черпають в авторів радянських антиповстанських виданнях, преса Чехії послуговується комуністичною термінологією характеризуючи український визвольний рух як фашистський.

В Канаді Марек Фанта мав надію знайти більш правдиву інформацію про УПА і тому звернувся до УКДДЦ, де в архіві є понад 50 записаних інтерв'ю з членами УПА. Він зупинився в Торонто на 30 днів і — тому що розмовляє українською і англійською мовами — міг сам записати ще шість інтерв'ю. Під уважним наглядом п-і Володимири Лучків, яка добре обізнана з архівними матеріялами в УКДДЦ і якій справа УПА близька, Марек Фанта зустрівся з людьми які брали участь в подіях Другої світової війни і які могли подати йому достовірні матеріяли якими він зможе протистояти чеській пресі.

Марек Фанта пояснив свою ціль: "Мене турбує діючий негативний історичний імідж борців за незалежність України який сформований через призму старої комуністичної пропаганди в Чехії... Я хочу причинитися до спростовання цього іміджу. Щоб почати таку роботу, я вже зробив свої перші досліди в тому, як чехословацька преса заклала і консолідувала комуністичну версію".

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Чим загрожує Росії угода України і ЄС?

Олена Матусова, *Радіо Свобода*

Президент Росії Владімір Путін каже, що підтримує пропозиції президента України Віктора Януковича провести тристоронні переговори. Реакція російських експертів на це висловлювання Путіна, яке він зробив 27 листопада в італійському місті Трієсте, як і на масові акції протесту проти зупинення роботи над договором про асоціацію з ЄС, що відбуваються в Україні, – далека від одностайності.

Путін заявив, що асоціація з Євросоюзом становить загрозу для економіки Росії.

Перебуваючи в Італії, Путін сказав: «Якщо ми збережемо зону вільної торгівлі з Україною – у нас є всі підстави вважати, що товари європейського походження безпосередньо, транзитом через територію України будуть надходити на наш ринок – або як європейські товари, або під виглядом українських. Це становить для нашої економіки велику загрозу».

Російський політолог Дмитро Орєшкін вважає, що висловлювання Путіна свідчить про те, що російська правляча еліта боїться неконкурентоспроможності вітчизняних товарів, хоча зниження митних бар'єрів було однією з причин, через які Росія вступила відносно недавно в СОТ.

«Мені здається, це спроба надати здорове, раціональне забарвлення нездоровому прагненню російського правлячого класу зберегти домінуючий вплив на пострадянському просторі, включно з Україною», – зауважує Дмитро Орєшкін.

Тим часом російські політики запевняють світову спільноту, що тиску на українське керівництво з боку Росії у питанні зупинення роботи над договором про асоціацію не було. Спікер Ради Федерації Росії Валентина Матвієнко сказав, що «це було суверенне право суверенної держави».

May the Spirit of Christmas bring you Peace and Happiness now and throughout the New Year.
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Українці Швеції схиляють голови за Голодомор та за Євроінтеграцію

(Союз Українок Скандинавії)—24 листопада в столиці Швеції , Стокгольмі з ініціативи Союзу Українок Скандинавії більше ста українців зібрались на акцію-мітинг пам'яті жертв Голодомору на Україні в 1932-33 роках. Було запалено 33 свічки та оголошено п.Степаном Тицьким хвилину мовчання в пам'ять мільйонів вбитих голодом. Протягом скорботного заходу роздавалась інформація мешканцям та гостям міста про трагедію 33-го в Україні.Своє послання до нащадків, які вшановуватимуть 100-і роковини Голодомору в Україні залишили українці в книзі "Послання пам'яті»

Під час мітингу пам'яті жертв Голодомору була проведена акція «Євромайдан у Стокгольмі» .

Голова Союзу Українок Скандинавії Зоряна Кікцьо зачитала Заяву представників українських громад Північної Європи на підтримку Євроінтеграції України. Зібрані підписи учасників акції будуть передані Президенту України, Уряду України та до Верховної Ради.

«Всім! Всім! Всім! Хто був на площі біля Королівського Замку в Стокгольмі - ДЯКУЄМО!

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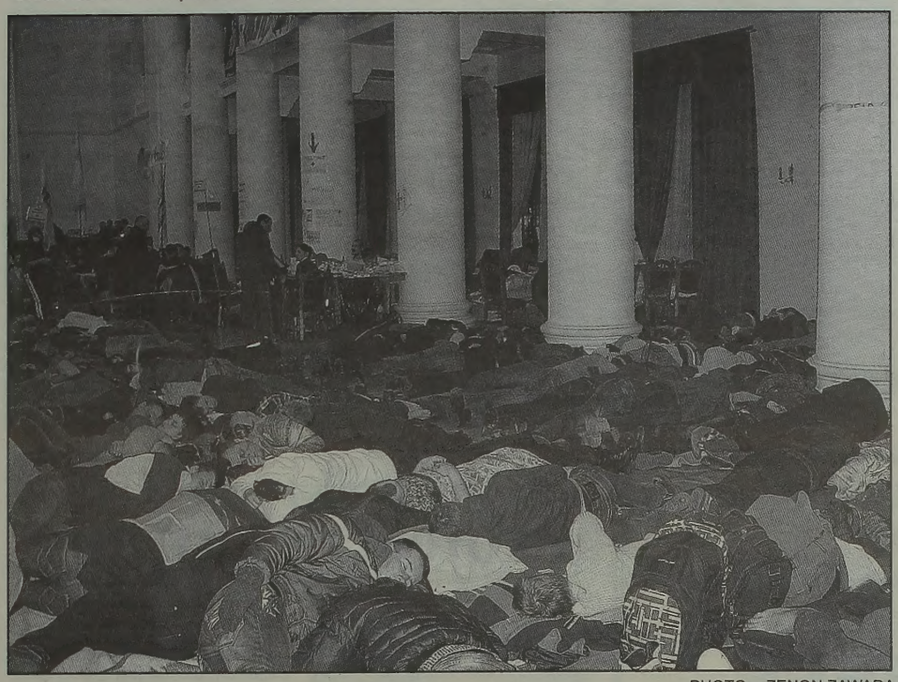

PHOTO -- ZENON ZAWADA

Hundreds of demonstrators slept in the session hall of the occupied Kyiv City Council building on Dec.4.

Protesters bring new order to Kyiv City Hall

By Katya Gorchinskaya,
Kyiv Post, Dec. 4, 2013

The porch of Kyiv City Hall looks very strange indeed. Typically empty and guarded by bored uniformed security officers, it's a buzzing hive of activity now, after it was taken over by anti-government protesters on Dec. 1, along with the Trade Union House on Maidan Nezalezhnosti.

City Hall is now known as the Headquarters of National Resistance. Its entrance carries a warning that people under alcoholic intoxication are strictly forbidden from entering. Another warning says bringing alcohol in is also taboo. Hundreds are walking in and out of the building, which now has developed its own rhythm of life and structure.

There are guards at the door and inside, cooks and care-takers all around, as well as a medical unit, a press center and the main office where lawmakers receive visitors round the clock, according to announcements taped all around the building.

There is even a pianist playing in the corner of the grand hall of the building, adorned by chandeliers and carrying the unmistakable hallmarks of 1950s decorating.

Some people are sleeping along the walls, adding to the surreal overall impression. A lonely pensioner, who said her name was Galina Pavlovna, stands by a column with a hand-written poster, saying "I love EuroMaidan."

Her feelings are not shared by the government, though. Several top government officials issued warnings to protesters to free state-owned buildings, or else. General Prosecutor Viktor Pshonka issued a warning on Dec. 3 that "any manifestations of contempt to law will get a corresponding legal evaluation."

The government's legal machine has already started punishing some of the protesters. On Dec. 3, a Kyiv court arrested nine alleged organizers of mass riots on Dec. 1. They can get up to eight years in jail, some members of the opposition fear.

It seems almost ironic now, that the government has lost control over the City Hall building after having a strong grip on the city for a long time. The building houses the city council and the mayor, both elected by people, according to the constitution.

However, the previous mayor resigned in July 2012, while the powers of the city council ran out in July 2013. The last elections were held in 2008, two years earlier than scheduled, amid corruption allegations.

But in May, Ukraine's Constitutional Court ruled that the next city council elections should be held in 2015. The date for mayoral election has not been set. Opposition and civil society accuse the government of pressuring the Constitutional Court to stall city elections which would most likely sweep pro-presidential parties out of the council, and elect an anti-government mayor.

In the meantime, Kyiv has been run by Oleksandr Popov, a presidential appointee, who heads the city administration, an executive body.

The strikers who run the City Hall are worried that the government will try to reclaim the building by force any time. Ruslan Andriyko, the chief of protesters' guard at the City Hall, says the building is prepared for attacks of law enforcers. "We expect them any minute," he says, without elaborating how they will be dealt with. He says that the building is nevertheless heavily guarded, and the number of guards is doubled at night.

Some of those are sleeping right here, on piles of duvets and throws donated by Kyivans. Just a few meters to the side, a medical unit is receiving a new patient, who complains about an eye problem.

Doctor Yevhen Oliynyk, who is on duty in the morning of Dec. 4, says he and other volunteers attended to 150 protesters yesterday. Most of them have sore throats from too much shouting and colds. "I tell them all to eat garlic," he says with a smile.

He says a lot of people are suffering from various stomach problems because of bad food and poor hygiene.

Best Wishes for a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Peter Goldring
Member of Parliament, Edmonton East
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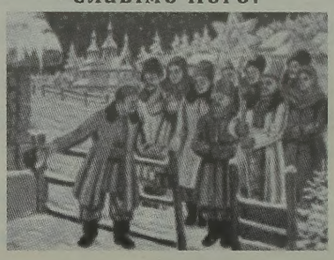

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Protests continue

Cont. from P. 3

In the western cities of Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, and Ternopil, officials on Dec. 2 announced they were going on strike and called on residents to join the protests.

Support for closer ties with Europe is stronger in Ukraine's west, while the east of the country looks more to Moscow.

On Dec. 2, Yanukovych called European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso and asked to renew negotiations on the Association Agreement.

In a television interview, Yanukovych acknowledged the rights of protesters to "speak their minds" but emphasized that the rallies must be peaceful.

"In such cases, it is important, of course, when we say that we are building a democratic state, a democratic society, that all participants — we all are citizens of this country, members of this society and processes that take place within it — adhere to the law," Yanukovych said.

"And it doesn't matter, if these are representatives of the government, law enforcement agencies, or the participants in the rallies — all must, mandatorily, respect the law."

Yanukovych also told Ukrainian media that he remained committed to European integration, but that he wanted to negotiate better terms.

Azarov took a similar tack on television, saying, "We want to provide work for [workers in] our machine-building, aerospace, airplane-building, and pipe manufacturing industries."

Through a spokesman, German Chancellor Angela Merkel repeated that Berlin and Brussels were ready to sign the Association Agreement, saying the protests prove that Ukrainians want the EU deal.

Also on Dec. 2, Azarov said the protests in Kyiv and elsewhere had "all the signs of a state coup."

Azarov said the government knew of plans to seize the parliament building in Kyiv.

The White House, however, said Washington did not "consider peaceful demonstrations coup attempts."

Spokesperson Jay Carney added that while a police crackdown on demonstrators in Kyiv on Nov. 30 was "unacceptable," the police had been more restrained since.

"We continue to support the aspirations of the Ukrainian people to achieve a prosperous European democracy. European integration is the surest force for economic growth and to strengthening Ukraine's democracy," Carney told reporters in Washington on Dec. 2.

On a visit to Armenia on Dec. 2, Russian President Vladimir Putin said the protests in Ukraine seemed "more like a pogrom than a revolution."

The Kremlin wants Ukraine to join a Russian-led customs union, rather than seek closer ties to Brussels.

At the UN, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon encouraged dialogue between the government and the opposition and urged both sides to "act with restraint" to avoid further bloodshed.

NATO foreign ministers released a statement on Dec. 3 urging restraint that was subsequently echoed by the military alliance's secretary-general.

"We condemn the use of excessive force against peaceful demonstrators in Ukraine," NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen said of the situation in Ukraine. "We call on all parties to refrain from provocations and violence. We urge Ukraine as the holder of the Chairmanship in Office of the OSCE [Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe] to fully abide by its international commitments and to uphold the freedom of expression and assembly. We urge the government and the opposition to engage in dialogue and launch a reform process."

In a statement on Dec. 3, the president of the OSCE's Parliamentary Assembly, Ranko Krivokapic, voiced concern over the situation in Ukraine and urged restraint.

Protesters on Dec. 2 blocked access to the government headquarters, while others continued to occupy city hall and the central trade unions' building.

The besieging of the government headquarters followed a rally of hundreds of thousands in Kyiv on Dec. 1. Estimates put the number of protesters in Independence Square at more than 100,000 and possibly up to 500,000.

There were clashes between protesters and police near the city's presidential administration building, where police used tear gas and truncheons to drive away the protesters.

More than 200 people — both civilians and police — were reported hurt during the clashes. Ukrainian and foreign journalists were among those injured. The opposition has blamed the violence on "provocateurs."

Hundreds of protesters spent the night in a tent camp on Independence Square, where they were being joined by others on Dec. 2. One of the protesters said: "I'll stay until the end. I have nothing to lose. I have a granddaughter. I have adult children. At least let them have a good life."

There were reports of protests by thousands in other Ukrainian cities as well. In the western city of Lviv, more than 40,000 demonstrated on Dec. 1.

PHOTOS — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Memorial Service

USSR refused Canadian aid during Holodomor, speaker says

By Marco Levytsky

Ukrainian Canadian farmers offered to send aid to help the starving victims of the Holodomor, but this assistance was refused by Soviet authorities, said the keynote speaker at the Holodomor commemoration organized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Edmonton Branch at City Hall, Nov. 23.

"During 1932-1933 more pressure from the West could certainly have been applied on the Soviet regime on the matter of the famine. A major problem, though, was that the Soviet regime was denying that there was a famine," said Dr. Serge Cipko, Coordinator of the Ukrainian Diaspora Studies Initiative at the Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Centre, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta.

"Sometime in the summer of 1932, Ukrainian farmers in Canada offered to share their harvest with the people of Ukraine and approached the Canadian Red Cross, but the offer was rejected.

"On 20 October 1932, the National Office of the Red Cross Society in Toronto wrote to the Canadian Red Cross Society in Calgary to say that a communication had been received from the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the Soviet Union. That communication read as follows:

"I have just received your letter of September 9th regarding the desire expressed by a group of Ukrainians to send part of their harvest to their compatriots. While expressing my most sincere thanks for the interest you have been good enough to take in this matter, I have the honour to inform you that in view of the satisfactory harvest this year, the Executive Committee of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies of the USSR believes that the carrying out of the Canadian citizens' proposal is not necessary in the absence of real need," he added.

Dr. Serge Cipko

Drawing on material collected for his book-in-progress on Canada and the Holodomor, Dr. Cipko cited several letters received by ethnic Ukrainians and Mennonites in Canada, which clearly showed people in Canada were aware of the scope of the disaster and were willing to help, but the famine continued to be denied by the USSR.

In March 1933 the Lethbridge Herald reported that "official quarters vigorously denied reports published abroad that the nation is suffering from famine. A statement that thousands were dying of starvation was branded as 'nonsensical.'"

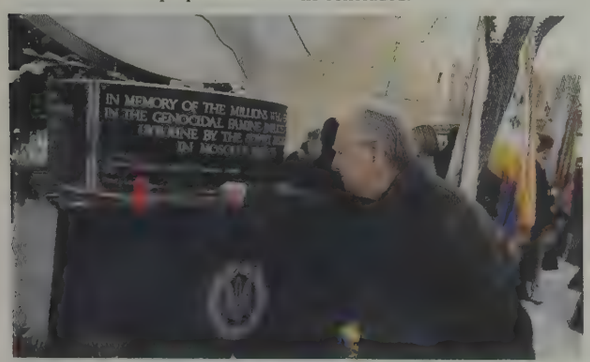
"The protests and appeals continued. And so, too, did the deaths — as the Soviet regime exported food abroad while millions starved. As former American president Herbert Hoover put it during a lecture in Canada in 1938, the Soviet regime, 'pitilessly left millions of its own people to die of starvation when that government had gold with which to have bought them food.'

"And it also, as we have heard, refused the grain of farmers here in the prairies when it was offered.," he concluded.

Edmonton Strathcona MP Linda Duncan told the audience she was attending by choice to help ensure that events like the Holodomor never happen again.

"In Ukrainian, the term Holodomor means death by starvation. This deadly famine genocide was engineered and organized on a vast scale by Stalin and the Soviet authorities from 1932 to 1933, causing the deaths of millions by imposed starvation. Commemoration of the Holodomor is particularly important given that this heinous crime against Ukrainian people was denied for so many decades," she said in an earlier statement posted on her Facebook page.

Cont. on P. 19



Holodomor survivor Leonid Korownyk places a flower by the monument to the victims of the genocide.

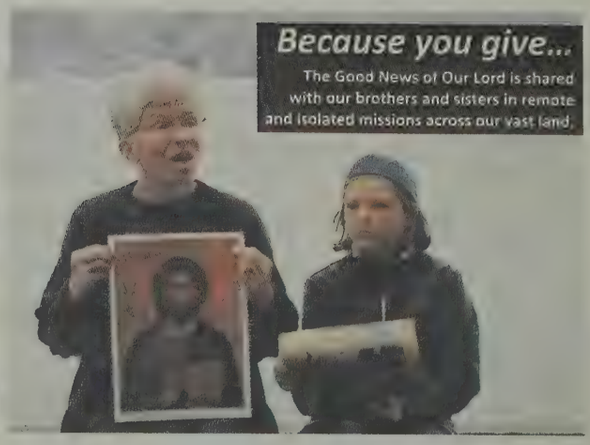


Photo: Sister Ruth Aney, S.S.M.I., and Alexy Hanson during Morning Prayer at Camp Volodymyr in Kelowna, British Columbia. Photo courtesy of Camp Volodymyr, Eparchy of New Westminster.

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[Kontakion]

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"The Genealogy of Christ; he is conceived and born of a Virgin."
[St. Matthew, 1,]

December, 2013

Dear Readers & Subscribers to "Ukrainian News"

On behalf of the "Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada" (UCBC) – Edmonton Eparchy, the Eparchial Executive Committee and all members of the UCBC Branches and Affiliated Men's Clubs wish to extend to the Readers and subscribers to this most informative and valuable publication a most sincere blessed Christmas and New year. May the newborn Jesus bless each and every one of you and your families with good health, peace, and happiness?

"May the peace that the Angels proclaimed at Jesus' birth be yours at Christmas and during the New year"

Христос Народився! Славімо Його!

Bro Orest Boychuk
President
UCBC – Edmonton Eparchy

100-річчя Мирона Левицького

У Львові відкрилася виставка його робіт

Тетяна Козирєва, *«День», Львів*

Львівський Національний музей ім. Андрея Шептицького вперше представив львів'янам та гостям міста роботи відомого українського живописця, графіка, письменника та журналіста Мирона Левицького, котрі кілька років тому подарувала Львову дружина мистця – Галина. Багаж з Канади, що прибув до міста Лева 2009-го, складався із 77 експонатів, і це, зокрема, живописні полотна та ілюстрації до дитячих книжок Мирона Левицького.

За словами куратора виставки завідувачки відділу українського мистецтва XIX – XX ст. Національного музею Оксани Жеплинської, художник побував у різних куточках світу, і все побачене і відчуте віддзеркалював у своїх творах. «У кожній роботі старався досягти вершини майстерності – його живопис, ілюстрації та листівки випромінюють дуже сильну енергетику», – зазначила на відкритті експозиції О. Жеплинська і додала, що митець усе життя пропагував у світі Україну і все українське – через монументальні розписи у церквах, оформлення книг, запрошень та листівок.

Нагадаємо, що Мирон Левицький (1913, Львів – 1993, Торонто) народився у Львові. Навчався у Мистецькій школі Олекси Новаківського, студіював графіку в Академії Красних Мистецтв у Кракові. Працював ілюстратором книжок, згодом – художником Археологічного відділу Академії наук та Історичного музею у Львові. Викладав у Мистецько-промисловій школі разом із Володимиром Балясом, Володимиром Блавацьким, Миколою Бутовичем, Яковом Гніздовським, Едвардом Козаком (Еко), Григорієм Смольським на відділі графіки, де студентами були, зокрема, такі видатні особистості, як Карл Звіринський, Лариса Крушельницька та Володимир Ярема (згодом Патріарх Української автокефальної православної церкви Димитрій).

ФОТО— ПАВЛА ПАЛАМАРЧУКА

Арабеска, 1974 р.

У 1949-му емігрував до Канади з першою дружиною Марією. Син Марко народився 1952-го р. 1956-го р. керував студією «Орбіт», метою якої було зафіксувати й зберегти на кіноплівці документальні матеріали про українські поселення у різних куточках світу. Завдяки роботі на кіностудії, багато подорожував, і враження від подорожей згодом фіксував на полотнах. Два роки, що їх Левицький провів у Парижі, стали визначальними для формування його мистецького модерного стилю, в якому домінували кольорові геометричні площини, з яких компонувалися майже готичні зображення на його картинах. Перша персональна виставка художника відбулася у 1958 р. у галереї «Рор Вольмар» (Galerie Ror Valmar), і її прихильно оцінили французькі критики. Інші експонувалися в Торонто, Ватерлу, Нью-Йорку, Детройті, Оттаві, Едмонтоні, Чикаго, Львові та Києві.

Створив велику кількість екслібрисів, оформив та проілюстрував у притаманному лише йому графічному стилі понад 300 книжок і часописів, збагативши новими творчими здобутками український національний стиль книжкової графіки.

Глибоке розуміння релігійної тематики відтворив в іконах та монументальних розписах десяти українських церков Канади, Австралії, та України (село Серафинці, Івано Франківська область).

У 1982 році видав збірку «Ліхтарі», майже всі оповідання якої присвячені довоєнному Львову й просякнуті ностальгією за містом дитинства та юності…

У 2009-му друга дружина мистця – Галина Горюн-Левицька здійснила мрію чоловіка, перевезла до Львова «Дар пам'яті Мирона-мистця».

Рибальський порт. Іспанія, 1963 р.

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Thank you, dear friends for supporting the Ukrainian Catholic University. Blessings to you and yours during this holiday season!

Дякуємо вам, дорогі друзі за вашу віру в цю прекрасну справу! Хай Господь в ці Різдвяні Свята щедро благословить Вас та Ваші родини!

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Vinok provides a festive feast

(UkrNews)—Vinok Worldance provided another delightful trip around the world with its 15th annual "Christmas Around the World" performance, held at the Chateau Louis Conference Centre in Edmonton, Nov 13- 17.

This year's production included dances from Mexico, Chile, Quebec, Romania, Germany, Slovakia, Ukraine, Finland, Armenia and the Philippines. Ines Castaneda, who taught last year's Peruvian addition, joined the cast and treated the audience to an energetic Afro-Peruvian dance created by escaped slaves.

As well, Ahmet Lüleci returned after 18 years to choreograph a new Black Sea Turkish piece for this year's production.

The Ukrainian numbers included an arrangement of "Hopak Kolom" and "Podil'sky Kozachok", based on the original choreography of the father of Ukrainian dance in Canada, Vasyl' Avramenko, as well as instrumental arrangement of Mykola Leontovich's "Shchedryk" by John Calverly.

PHOTOS — DCM PHOTOGRAPHY / DOYLE C. MARKO
Ukrainian Dance

Shchedryk, actually a Malanka or New Year's song wishing the hosts prosperity has become known to English-speaking audiences as the "Carol of the Bells".

Another highlight was the hilarious Schuhplattler (slapping soles number) from Bavaria with choreography by Leanne Koziak and Doyle Marko and based upon original material provided by Paul McKenney.

Timothy Anderson once again served as host of the evening, captivating the audience with his wit, stories and rich baritone vocals on such numbers as the Filipino carol "Ang Pako Ay Sumapit", The Huron Carol, the German O Tannenbaun and the Hebrew Hanukkah song "Hanerot Halalu".

A special guest was six-year-old classical guitar virtuoso Harry Grimwood-Knight who performed an excellent flamenco piece,

Since its start 14 years ago, *Christmas Around the World* has staged dances from more than 40 ethnicities, nations and communities.

Chilean Dance

May this Christmas Season be filled with joy and the New Year bring you good health and happiness.

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Legendary Chervona Ruta song popular at EuroMaidan

By Daryna Shevchenko. *Kyiv Post. Nov. 29, 2013*

Ukrainians prove they are a folk-singing nation when they come out to protest, party or simply to gather. The EuroMaidan demonstration, in support of closer ties to the European Union that political leaders scuttled on Nov. 21, is no exception.

Along with chants of "Ukraine is Europe!" the crowds gathering at Kyiv's Maidan Nezalezhnosti also enjoy singing. Perhaps the all-time favorite classic is "Chervona Ruta," which translates as "The Red Rue," as in the flower. It seems that every Ukrainian knows the lyrics by heart.

The song, written by Ukrainian composer and songwriter Volodymyr Ivasiuk in 1968, is a masterpiece that endures through the EuroMaidan rallies of 2013.

The song, written when Ivasiuk was a 19-year-old medical student in Chernivtsi, tells a love story and evokes an ancient Ukrainian legend. Legend says that on the night of the pagan holiday Ivana Kupala, celebrated on June 7, the rue flower, normally yellow, turns red for several seconds. The flower can bring happiness in love for anyone who finds it. In the song, a man persuades his love interest that she doesn't need the magic rue flower, because his heart belongs to her anyway.

The song was first performed on Sept. 30, 1970 in Chernivtsi Theater. In 1971 the song won the "The Song of 1971" contest in Moscow, cementing its place in history as one of the most popular tunes of the Soviet Union, and apparently still today. The song is still performed by many prominent singers, including Nazariy Yaremchuk, Sofia Rotaru, Taras Chubay from rock band Plach Yeremii and Ani Lorak. The famous Italian singer Toto Cutugno even performed the tune during a concert in Ukraine.

Top songs of EuroMaidan:

National anthem of Ukraine "Shche ne vmerla Ukraina (Ukraine Has Not Yet Died)"

"Chervona Ruta (The Red Rue)"

"Nadiya Ye (There Is Hope)" by Mad Heads

"Lenta Za Lentoyu (Pass the Ammo Belt)", UPA song popularized by Taras Chubay

"Ne spi, moya ridna zemlya (Don't Sleep, My Native Land)" by Mandry

"Ne stiy, stribay (Don't Stand, Jump)" by TNMK

"Vstavay (Rise)" by Okean Elzy

"Poperedu (Ahead)" by Ot Vinta

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Та яке нам діло?
Ми сонечко намалюєм,
Щоби нас нагріло.

27 листопада 1863 року народилася відома всьому світові українська письменниця Ольга Кобилянська. В понеділок 18 листопада 2013 року, в гостинному залі Культурного Центру при Катедрі св. Івана Хрестителя в Едмонтоні, заходом місцевого відділу Союзу Українок (СУ) Канади, під головуванням Леони Бриджес і мистецьким керівництвом талановитої поетеси і громадської діячки Наталі Гриців, відбувся товариський вечір, присвячений життю, творчості та світлій пам'яті письменниці.

У чи не найхолодніший, по-справжньому зимовий вечір цього року в Едмонтоні, коли щоб доїхати до залу треба було не менше години, в залі зібралася велика кількість гостей, що прибули на цей, перший в Едмонтоні вечір, присвячений 150-літньому ювілеєві письменниці.

Ідею цього мистецького проекту викохала нам всім відома пані Наталя Гриців. Як сказано у збірці її недавно виданої книжки поезій, " соняшне проміння, музика і духовне самовдосконалення" складають інструментальну частину її щоденного життя і праці. Вона з дитинства виявляла любов до поетичного слова і та любов триває до сьогодні. Крім того, пані Наталя - надзвичайно добродушна і працьовита. Вона вже багато разів організовувала в Едмонтоні цікаві культурні програми і ми, Союзанки, дуже раді, що маємо її в наших рядах з перших днів її проживання в Едмонтоні.

Програма вечора була багатою і цікавою.

PHOTO — OLLI MEGLEY

В першому ряду зліва направо – Наталя Гриців, Юлія Елащук, Володимир Гриців і Ольга Колєснікова. В другому ряду, зліва направо: Леона Бриджес, Оля Логвиненко, Галина Елков і Рональд Бейда та Христина Звоздецька.

Голова СУ Канади, Едмонтонський відділ при Катедрі Св. Івана, пані Леона Бриджес, відкрила цей святковий вечір і привітала гостей. Жіночі організації Едмонтону, всі відділи Союзанок Едмонтону, та багато зацікавлених гостей заповнювали зал. Ані снігопад, ані мороз не затримали наше жіноцтво від участі. Як сказала наша довголітня союзанка, пані Анна Звоздецька, "та ми ж Союзанки".

На головній сцені, прикрашений вишитим рушником, стояв портрет письменниці, намальований блаженної пам'яті Вадимом Доброліжем. Цей портрет письменниці і автопортрет художника Вадима Доброліжа, наряду з килимами і вишивками, представленими Українським Музеєм Альберти, наповнили зал кольорами і настроєм Буковини, де жила і творила свої праці Ольга Кобилянська. Буковинська музика протягом вечора чарівними мелодіями підсилювала це відчуття. Гарно задекоровані столи, з теплим полум'ям запалених свічок, додавали до атмосфери вечора інтимності, спонукали до роздумів. Багато інформації глядачі почерпнули з презентацій, котрі підготував з друзями і родиною пан Олег Панчук, внук Ольги Кобилянської, професор Чернівецького Національного Університету імені Юрія Федьковича.

Уривок з новели "Ніоба" прочитали Наталя Гриців, Ольга Колєснікова і Володимир Гриців. В дусі святкувань ми почули спів нашої оперної співачки пані Світлани Сех. Вона проспівала пісню «Ой не ходи, Грицю, тай на вечорниці" , котрою Кобилянська розпочинає свій твір "У неділю рано зілля копала". Оригінальною точкою програми було читання оповідання "Почерез море" англійською мовою. Надзвичайно вміло його прочитали пані Юлія Елащук, Галина Елков і Рональд Бейда. Для багатьох із нас це було перше, так по-мистецьки представлене, виконання перекладу на англійську мову відомого нам твору. Довгими оплесками публіка нагородила здібних виконавців. Увазі гостей була приготована виставка творів письменниці англійською і українською мовами. Книги були представлені бібліотекою Союзу Українок та Едмонтонською міською бібліотекою. Союзанки задекорували стіл вишивками і зустрічаючи гостей, вітали їх та рекомендували книги.

Ще довго після офіційного закінчення програми, приятелі і знайомі групами обмінювалися враженнями. Було чути похвальні опінії, а найбільше - побажання проводити такі вечори частіше. Організаторам вечора, Наталі Гриців, Юлії Елащук, Христині Звоздецькій, і голові відділу Леоні Бриджес належиться велика подяка і признання за багатий, цікавий вечір. Щасти Вам Боже і надалі працювати для збереження нашої культури.

Ольга Логвиненко,
відділ Союзу Українок
при Катедрі Св. Івана в Едмонтоні.

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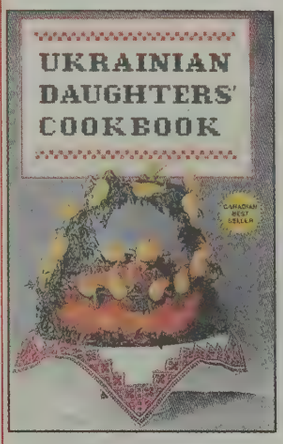

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Shevchenko Foundation celebrates 50 years!

(UCFTS)—October 6 the Shevchenko Foundation kicked off its 50th anniversary celebrations at the Malaspina Theatre, Vancouver Island University, in Nanaimo, BC.

In partnership with Nash Holos Ukrainian Roots Radio, the Foundation invited donors and the public to celebrate the Foundation's milestone with a concert of west coast Ukrainian Canadian dance and vocal talent, and a presentation on the work of the Shevchenko Foundation.

Performances included a large cross-section of dance and vocal groups from British Columbia, including the Vesna Ukrainian Dancers of Nanaimo, vocal quartet Luna of Victoria, musician Evelyn Shindruk of the Westcoast Dulcimer Duo of Surrey, the Dolyna Ukrainian Dancers of Comox Valley, Veselka Dancers of Victoria, and bandurist and singer Ruta Yawney with vocalist Dona Dutchak.

Ruta Yawney and Donna Dutchak

Speaking to the gathering of approximately 200 people, Andrew Hladyshevsky, Q.C., President of the Shevchenko Foundation highlighted the important role that the Shevchenko Foundation has played, and continues to play, in supporting cultural endeavour in the Ukrainian Canadian community in the fields of arts, education, heritage, and community development.

"As president of the Shevchenko Foundation, I would like to thank Paulette McQuarrie of Nash Holos for assisting in hosting, organizing, and MCing this event. Thank you to all the performers for participating in this afternoon's concert. And a big thank you to all of you, the audience, for travelling from near and far to help the Shevchenko Foundation kick off its 50th anniversary celebrations", said Hladyshevsky.

A reception followed the concert giving everyone the opportunity to visit and to learn more about the Foundation. The Shevchenko Foundation will be celebrating throughout the year, with stops in various cities across Canada.

The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko (Shevchenko Foundation) was incorporated by an Act of Parliament on July 22, 1963. Over its 50 year history the Foundation has invested $10 million into supporting Ukrainian Canadian culture and community life.

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"Наука для науки" чи "Наука для життя"?

Полеміка між Іваном Франком і Михайлом Зубрицьким

Дагмара Турчин-Дувірак,
пресовий референт НТШ.

Професор Франк Сисин добре відомий своїми історичними працями в ділянці українсько-польських взаємин минулих століть, дослідженням Хмельниччини та ранньої модерної української політичної історії. В українській громаді він найбільше знаний як авторитетний головний редактор англомовного видання багатотомної "Історії України-Руси" Михайла Грушевського. Останнім часом проф.Сисин також досліджує наукову діяльність отця Михайла Зубрицького – соратника Івана Франка та активного діяча НТШ на початку минулого століття. Про Зубрицького та підготовку до друку його наукових праць проф.Сисин доповідав на засіданні НТШ в Торонто в січні минулого року. Перша осіння доповідь НТШ нового сезону 2013-2014 рр., що відбулася в Торонто 24 жовтня у приміщенні Кумф, розкрила ще одну цікаву сторінку у взаєминах Зубрицького та Франка , а саме – їхню полеміку щодо завдань та напрямків роботи української науки. Свою доповідь проф.Сисин присвятив виходу у світ першого тому трьохтомного видання праць отця Зубрицького, якого можна було придбати під кінець вечора.

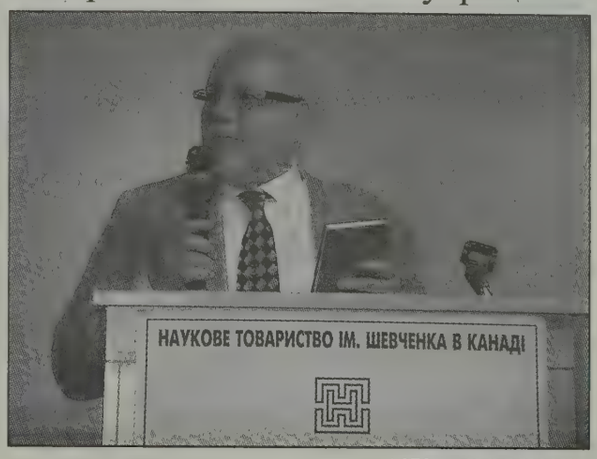


ФОТО — ДАРІЯ ДАРЕВИЧ

Професор Ф. Сисин підчас доповіді.

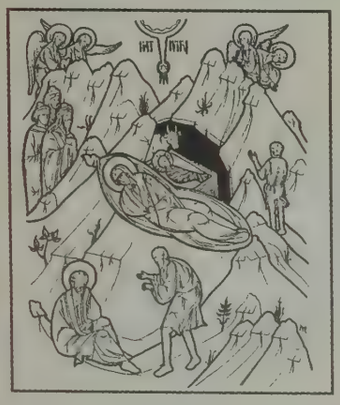
Як нагадав проф.Сисин присутнім, Франко і Зубрицький були ровесниками - обоє народилися 1856 році. Разом навчалися в Дрогобицькій гімназії, хоча Франко закінчив навчання три роки раніше від Зубрицького. Відновлення знайомства відбулося у 1886 році, коли Зубрицький в листах звернувся до Франка з приватним проханням. З того часу між сільським парохом з села Мшанець Зубрицьким і вже відомим на той час поетом, вченим, політиком і активним громадським діячем Франком нав'язуються досить близькі товариські і ділові стосунки. Франко надсилає книжки на прохання Зубрицького для просвіти людей у селі. Зубрицький збирає для Франка надзвичайно цікаві матеріали від селян в його околиці. Серед них - апокрифи 17-18 ст., народні коляди, в одній з яких згадується Софійський собор (і це – на Бойківщині!), і де М. Драгоманов знайшов навіть балканські впливи. Оповідання, що Зубрицький записав від людей у селі, Франко надрукував. Іван Франко дуже високо оцінив ці оповідання, він їх навіть порівняв з італійськими оповіданнями доби Ренесансу. Врешті, завдяки Зубрицькому була зорганізована Бойківська етнографічна експедиція НТШ до Мшанця, учасники якої – І.Франко, З.Кузеля, Ф.Вовк – за десять днів зібрали безліч цінних матеріалів та зробили сотні світлин.

Що ж за полеміка розгорнулася між такими близькими однодумцями? Виявляється, що приводом для неї стала критика діяльності НТШ в тогочасній руській (українській) пресі 1905 року. Отець Зубрицький відгукнувся на неї статтею, в якій виклав власний погляд на завдання української науки. На його думку, наука повинна спрямовувати свої зусилля на руйнування "китайського муру" між інтелігенцією і народом, науковці мусять прагнути донести здобутки науки до народу. Отже, наука має бути не привілеєм окремих вибраних одиниць, а служити для життя всього загалу. На статтю о.Зубрицького, Іван Франко відгукнувся реплікою, у якій висловив власну, відмінну від Зубрицького, позицію. Розглядати науку з точки зору її придатності для життя, вважає Франко, це зведення науки до вузько утилітарної ролі. Насправді, наука має керуватися вищими альтруїстичними потребами розвитку духу без огляду на матеріальну користь. Тільки такий розвиток поставить українську науку в один ряд з іншими європейськими націями. Як бачимо, наголосив проф.Сисин, обидва полемісти висловлювали тут позиції, продиктовані їхнім середовищем та способом життя. Отець Михайло Зубрицький, що більшу частину життя прожив у селі, як сільський священник, дбав про інтереси оточуючих його людей і прагнув піднести народ до інтелігенції. Іван Франко, що мешкав у Львові життям міського інтелігента, керувався палким бажанням піднести українську націю до рівня найпрогресивніших європейських націй. Тут є певна іронія, бо власне Зубрицький походив з шляхти, тоді як Франко був селянського роду.

Зрештою, полеміка між Зубрицьким та Франком обмежилася вже згаданою статтею першого та короткою реплікою другого. Як знаємо, обидва, в міру своїх талантів та можливостей, прислужилися до розвитку української науки. Про велетенський внесок Івана Франка до української духовної скарбниці ми знаємо давно і порівняно багато.Тепер, завдяки дослідницькій праці професора Сисина, дізнаємося все більше і про отця Михайла Зубрицького, скромного, але відданого подвижника української науки. Тож привітаємо всіх, а передусім професора Франка Сисина з виходом у світ першої книги запланованого видання праць Зубрицького і будемо з нетерпінням чекати появи наступних томів.

З Різдвом Христовим

святом великої радости та надії, щиро вітаємо голову Української Греко-Католицької Церкви, Блаженнішого Святослава, Високопреосвященного Митрополита Лаврентія, Синод Української Греко-Католицької Церкви, усе духовенство, чернецтво, боголюбивих мирян, проводи і членство українських громадських організацій та установ, та ввесь український нарід.



З нами Бог!
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Славім Його!

May the joy of God's abundant blessings and the peace of Jesus be with you all as we celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord.

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"Небо і земля сьогодні хай з пророками радіють, ангели і люди хай духовно торжествують, Бог бо в тілі появився тим, що сиділи в темряві і тіні".

UCC delegation meets with Foreign Minister

Baird announces election observers in 5 problematic ridings

(UCC National)—A delegation of leaders from the Ukrainian Canadian Community met with Canada's Foreign Minister John Baird Nov. 26 to highlight the concerns of the community regarding the situation in Ukraine, and the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement.

"We met with Minister Baird to express our gratitude for the leadership role played by the Government of Canada and the Minister personally, in terms of supporting the European aspirations of the Ukrainian people," stated Paul Grod, UCC National President. "A full and drank conversation with Minister Baird took place and we are pleased with the support the Government of Canada continues to provide regarding the rule of law in Ukraine and Ukraine's democratic development."

The Nov. 21 decision by Ukraine to suspend the EU-Ukraine negotiations one week before the Vilnius Summit has sparked mass demonstrations described as "Euromaidan" in support of the European aspirations of the Ukrainian people, which have seen hundreds of thousands taking to the street in Ukraine, and supporting rallies held in Ottawa, Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto and Montreal.

UCC Delegation with Foreign Minister Baird

The delegation led by Grod included: Renata Roman (VP UCC National), John Iwaniura (VP Canada Ukraine Chamber of Commerce), Orest Steciw (President League of Ukrainian Canadians) and Taras Zalusky (Executive Director of the UCC). The group also met with MP Bob Dechert, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Justice.

UCC Expressed to the Minister its concerns over the decisions by Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers to suspend the preparations for the signing of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, expressed concern that the decision exceeds the authority of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and thanked the Minister for his leadership on the issue of EU-Ukraine integration.

UCC thanked the Minister for confirming Canada's friendship and support for Ukraine at this critical time, and expressed concern over the extraordinary pressure being brought to bear by Russia in its effort to have Ukraine join its Eurasian Economic Union.

Grod briefed Minister Baird on his meeting with Ukraine's Speaker Volodymyr Rybak, where Rybak stated that the question of the signing of the Association Agreement is not a question of "if" but a question of "when" and that a signature by November 30 is not out of the question. Rybak explained that a key impediment remains Russia's economic and political coercion that would create significant economic hardship for Ukraine. As a result, Ukraine is looking for an economic aid package from Europe to help them transition to a EU focused economy. Baird advised UCC that Canada is dispatching David Anderson, MP and Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs to the Vilnius EU Summit to monitor the situation and to call on European leaders to take all necessary steps to sign the Association Agreement with Ukraine.

The delegation called on the Government of Canada to continue to press for release of Yulia Tymoshenko and informed the Minister that the former Prime Minister wrote to UCC on the occasion of its Triennial Congress (November 8-10) where she called on the EU not to allow her imprisonment to be a barrier to signing the Association Agreement.

Baird used the occasion to announce that Canada will be sending a 25-person Election observer delegation to monitor the results of the re-elections in 5 problematic districts where the results were not certified by Ukraine's Central Electoral Commission.

"We welcome the Ukrainian Canadian community's contribution to international election-observation efforts of the Ukrainian World Congress, which will run an observation mission in parallel with the Canadian mission" stated the Minister. "This mission is a demonstration of Canada's continuing commitment to supporting democratic development and the rule of law for all Ukrainians."

Montreal Ukrainians honour Patriarch Slipyj

By Daria Humenny

October 20 the Montreal Ukrainian community came out in large numbers to commemorate the memory of a religious and moral giant of the Ukrainian nation, the servant of God, Patriarch Josyf Slipyj (1892-1984). Appointed successor to Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky as head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in 1944, he led the Church through difficult times. Despite being incarcerated for 18 years he steadfastly refused to bend to the will of the Soviet regime, earning the respect of religious and political leaders and people of all nations worldwide. He was freed in 1963 in great part due to the intercession of Pope John XXIII and President John F. Kennedy.

The overwhelmingly successful event began with a Moleben at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church. It was celebrated by all of the Ukrainian Catholic priests serving the Montreal area and was led by Reverend Roman Lahola, who spoke touchingly of his personal memories of Slipyj as an inspirational mentor during his time in Rome at the Ukrainian Catholic University, and of the grace bestowed upon him of having been ordained to the priesthood by Patriarch Slipyj.

Everyone was thence invited to proceed to the adjacent Cardinal Josyf Slipyj Ukrainian Museum, which is affiliated with the ABVM church, where the curator, Roma Kupchynska, welcomed everyone with the sincere hope that they might be enlightened, encouraged and inspired by this expose on the the life of one of the most valiant and indomitable figures of the twentieth-century who was dubbed a "Moses" of his time.

An original oil portrait of Slipyj's noble figure looked on as an endless line of people eagerly filed past the graphically beautiful display panels summarizing his life in English, French and Ukrainian and paused at the showcase displays of original archival documents from around the world pertaining to key moments in the life of Patriarch Slipyj and of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The event culminated with the presentation of two short films which were particularly treasured by all attendees as they involved Patriarch Josyf Slipyj's visits to Montreal in 1968 and 1976. Refreshed by a light meal of delicious borscht and sandwiches, guests contentedly remarked upon the many changed faces seen in the films, exchanged memories and related stories of these visits.

This exhibit was made possible in great measure by the provision of original documents and the films by Bohdanna Monchak and her family, whose father, the late Reverend Ivan Hawryluk was a student of Patriarch in the 1930's at the Lviv Theological Academy.

Visitors at the Cardinal Josyf Slipyj Ukrainian Museum in Montreal

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Holodomor commemorated in Alberta Legislature

(UkrNews)—Members of the Alberta Legislature and the Ukrainian community held a solemn ceremony in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the Holodomor and the fifth anniversary of the passage of the *Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day Act,* at the Alberta Legislature, Nov. 26

"Between 1932 and '33 10 million Ukrainian peasants – men, women and children – became victims of starvation, a most horrific, painful and slow death sentence, at the hands of the ruling Soviet government. Instituting policy to cripple the farming industry and confiscate what small yield was produced, the government's actions could be nothing short of genocide," said Gene Zwozdesky, Speaker of the Alberta Legislature and author of the Holodomor bill.

"For many generations following the vicious act Soviet authorities denied, concealed or destroyed information to the fact. It wasn't until several generations later that the heavy cloak was lifted and the world was made aware of the extent of the famine and the sinister plot at its core. Once the veil was lifted, various groups, including the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, the United Nations and several national parliaments, passed resolutions to institute memorial days, officially recognizing the tragedy and admonishing the Soviet government's device of peasant control," said Zwozdesky, who served as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

"Five years ago our Legislative Assembly marked the 75th anniversary of this most horrific event by passing such a bill, a bill to effectively imprint the tragedy onto the consciousness of society at large, forever immortalizing the Holodomor as an act too terrible to forget. Being of Ukrainian heritage, I was proud to sponsor that bill on behalf of more than 300,000 Albertans of Ukrainian origin.

PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Alberta Deputy Premier Thomas Lukaszuk light the memorial candles with the help of Holodomor survivors Natalia Talanchuk and Leonid Korownyk (hidden) while Speaker Gene Zwozdesky looks on.

"The *Ukrainian Famine and Genocide (Holodomor) Memorial Day Act* shines a bright light on a very dark time in world history and offers what little comfort is possible to survivors and their descendants. The Act seeks to provide not only closure and a way forward out of the darkness but also a cautionary reminder of the fragility of humanity and the importance of protecting human rights," he said.

Alberta Deputy Premier Thomas Lukaszuk also referred to the passage of the act noting: "The dark forces of the Stalinist Soviet Union tried to damper that spirit, the Ukrainian spirit but with the proclamation of this act even though far away from Ukraine, we have proven that that spirit cannot be extinguished and the memories will never fade."

"It shows that the strength and the perseverance is there and that the memory of this horrible genocide will be kept alive not only for Ukraine, but for the entire world. Because memory is our shield and it is our sword and it is our promise and guarantee that as long as we commemorate and we remember as long as we fight against forces that have the capacity to inflict such atrocities upon populations it will never happen again," he added.

Official Opposition Leader Danielle Smith said the Holodomor will forever remain a blemish on all of humanity.

"Economic in nature, political in shape and historic in destruction, the Holodomor was a man-made event of most sinister device, manufactured to spur an era of global development for the USSR. Stalin's ambition was to build the Soviet empire into an industrial world power. His ambitions were costly, and the price to be paid would be higher than anyone could ever conceive. His regime would be built on the backs of the Ukrainian peasantry, his five-year plan paid for with lives, paid for with grain practically torn from the mouths of starving babes through forced collectivization programs. Hunger became the weapon wielded by the government to crush political resistance.

"Ukraine was the site of almost half of the peasant riots of 1930. The genocide was a seemingly simple solution to silence upheaval amongst the vocal and united Ukrainian peasants," she added.

Liberal Opposition Leader Dr. Raj Sherman said the chilling facts cannot be denied.

"In the region often referred to as the breadbasket of Europe, where the richest of black soil nurtured bountiful crops for as far as the eye could see, millions starved to death. Unlikely? Yes. Premeditated? Most assuredly. Through forced collectivization programs, through the confiscation of every last morsel of food, through the blockade of borders to prevent escape from the devastation and through the incarceration or murder of those who secretly maintained food reserves, the Soviet government managed the unimaginable, the systematic starvation of an entire population during a time of relative bounty. The only human disaster of comparable magnitude, both in lives lost and cruelties suffered, would be the Holocaust. Unlike the Holocaust, however, this tragedy is a little known fact. For generations the inhumane acts of the Holodomor went largely unreported, leaving its victims practically forsaken by the world. It is shocking that such an atrocity was kept quiet for so long, but when you consider that the Soviet government went as far as falsifying census reports to cover it up, the picture starts to become clear, and the method behind the atrocities even more disturbing," he added.

Speaking for the New Democrat Opposition, Edmonton Beverly-Clareview MLA Deron Bilous noted that "it is painfully clear that the Ukrainian famine was not due to drought, pestilence or natural disaster but rather an act of genocide.

"Forced starvation was used to punish and repress the Ukrainian peasantry, who had failed to meet the targets of the Soviet collectivization plan. Grain harvests were shipped overseas. Food products were confiscated from local grocers and corner stores. The supply of manufactured products was halted. In the spring of 1932 48,000 tons of grain were imported from oversees to prevent possible food shortages in other regions, but not a single morsel ever made it as far as Ukraine. It is estimated that at the peak of the devastation 25,000 people perished daily. Those who withheld food to ensure the survival of themselves and their families were arrested and charged with theft of social property, which was punishable by 10 years in prison

Cont. on P. 19

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From the director and staff at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

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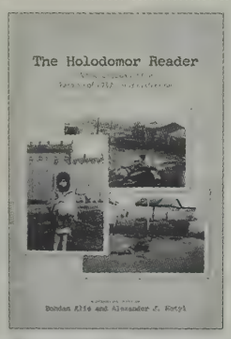

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Holodomor commemorated in Alberta Legislature

Cont. from P. 18

and, in some cases, death. The Ukrainian peasants became pawns in a political tug-of-war that ultimately left them victims. Meant to spread terror through Ukrainian society by destroying a significant portion of the population, the Holodomor was an act of genocide and an unforgivable crime against humanity."

Genia Leskiw, MLA for Bonnyville-Cold Lake and Chair of the Advisory Council for Alberta-Ukraine Relations related a poignant story of one Holodomor survivor, noting taken all together, these stories weave the tapestry of this tragedy.

"And it is important now more than ever that we continue to preserve the memory of those afflicted by these atrocious acts. We must honour the determination of those who survived and their ability to recover after such a tragedy. I believe in the importance of tying together Ukraine's past with its future. May eternal memory be upon them," she said.

Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council President Olesia Luciw-Andryjowycz thanked the government for establishing the Holodomor act and emphasized it was a genocide.

"Raphael Lemkin, the Jewish-Polish scholar who coined the term genocide, wrote that the Ukrainian genocide consisted of four components: 'The first blow was aimed at the intelligentsia, the national brain, so as to paralyze the rest of the body.' The second was "an offensive against the churches, priests, and hierarchy, the 'soul' of Ukraine... The third prong of the Soviet plan was aimed at the farmers, the large mass of independent peasants who are the repository of the tradition, folk lore and music, the national language and literature, the national spirit, of Ukraine. The weapon used against this body is perhaps the most terrible of all, starvation.... The fourth step in the process consisted in the fragmentation of the Ukrainian people... by the addition to Ukraine of foreign peoples and by the dispersion of Ukrainians throughout Eastern Europe.'

"The importance of commemorations such as today is that now they carry even greater significance. As the current government in Ukraine under Russian influence is attempting to rewrite history, and suggest that the Holodomor was just the result of difficult circumstances, events like today will serve as reminders that the world, that Canadians and that Albertans know differently," she said

Special guest Hennadiy Ivanushchenko, former director of the National Archives, Sumy Oblast, said Ukraine became a victim of the Holodomor because it was a country that fought for its independence.

"This is a country whose people — to this very day — are struggling for a steadfast independence, for democracy and a just society, for the restoration of acknowledged national history, in spite of the stagnating remnants of its colonial past.

"It is critical to us that we are not alone in this struggle. The Ukrainian people, Ukrainian historians, are grateful to the people and Government of Canada, and to the Province of Alberta for proclaiming the Ukrainian Holodomor as an act of genocide, for spreading the truth, for its support," he noted.

Holodomor survivor Leonid Korownyk read a poem he had especially written for the commemoration, which ended with a rendition of a song of remembrance "It's up to us", written by Natalia Onyschuk and James French and performed by Ukrainian Bilingual Program Students from St Martin and St. Matthew Catholic School Choirs, conducted by Onyschuk and Yanina Vihovska, and a candle lighting by Deputy Premier Lukaszuk.

USSR refused Canadian aid during Holodomor, speaker says

Cont. from P. 11

Speaker of the Alberta Legislature Gene Zwozdesky told the audience "the Alberta Legislature and all our 87 MLAs stand with you and behind you in commemoration of one of the greatest and most heinous crimes perpetrated on humanity in our modern times."

"As we look back and think about what happened in 1932-33 we are reminded of how tragedy can strike innocent men, women and children just because of their ethnicity. We are reminded that 25,000 people per day at the height of the famine were dying of starvation in the breadbasket of Europe. We are reminded that no one was allowed in, no one was allowed out, grain was cut off, seeds were cut off, livestock was removed, everything was by calculated design aimed at a political endeavour to annihilate a nation. We are reminded that similar events could easily occur again," he added.

Edmonton Decore MLA Janice Sarich, who was unable to attend, sent a letter in which she stated: "For decades knowledge of the Holodomor was suppressed and denied. However, the agony of a nation was exposed to the world revealing the deliberate orchestration of a grain shortage that killed not less than 7 million men, women, and children of Ukraine. It is beyond comprehension that wheat, a universal symbol of life, of physical prosperity and spiritual wealth, a historic symbol of Ukraine's livelihood, became a weapon of genocide intended to destroy a nation.

"Ukraine remembers, and we with her, and in the spirit of these two words, більш ніколи – "never again", let us pledge to never forget the torment of those who succumbed to imposed starvation, and those who witnessed in heart-wrenching and helpless misery as their family members, friends, and neighbours lost their lives, and were deprived their futures."

UCC Edmonton President Luba Feduschak termed the Holodomor "a horrendous act of genocide was committed against the people in Ukraine by Stalin's Communist regime. A cold-blooded plan to eradicate a people from the face of the earth – the Holodomor or extermination by famine. Its people were subjected to a state organized disaster that was both ethnic and political in nature.

"Unlike natural disasters that provide the affected communities with options for survival — or assistance from neighbors and friends [disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, typhoons, tsunamis], this disaster was a genocide," she added.

Master of Ceremonies Boris Radyo, Assistant Superintendent for Educational Planning, Edmonton Catholic School District informed the assembly that Edmonton Catholic School District board of trustees, which two years ago established a Holodomor memorial day, "has unanimously adopted a resolution urging all Alberta Catholic school districts to implement a Holodomor Memorial Day in their school year calendar and to undertake activities in their schools in recognition of the Holodomor, and indeed many of the Catholic school districts across this province have done just that."

The ceremony was opened by a Memorial Service conducted by Bishop Ilarion and clergy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and the Very Rev. Father Stephen Wojeichowsky and clergy of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. Responses were sung by Akolada, an ensemble that specializes in singing sacred music according to the traditions of the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches and conducted by Halyna Lazurko

Flag bearers from various organizations as well as members of the youth groups CYM and Plast, as well as students from Ridna Shkola, and the Ivan Franko School also participated.

Several Holodomor survivors were present including Natalka Talanchuk, Rev. Fr. Pavlo Zmiyiwsky, Dobr. Anna Zmiyiwsky and Leonid Korownyk, who read a poem he had written about the Holodomor.

Following the program, a wreath laying ceremony was held at the monument to the victims of the Holodomor in front of Edmonton's City Hall – the first such monument erected in the world.

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Protesters, police battle on Bankova Street

By Christopher J. Miller,
Kyiv Post, Dec. 2, 2013

Just after 2 p.m. on Dec. 1, as a peaceful demonstration was taking place on Independence Square blocks away, hundreds of radical demonstrators, many outfitted with armor and gas masks, marched on Bankova Street toward the Presidential Administration building. Some brought with them crowbars, chains, clubs and gas canisters. Stones, which they didn't bring, they pulled up from the cobbled sidewalks. A man driving a front loader accompanied them. They were ready for battle.

The rowdy mob was met by a steel barricade and a wall of heavily armored special riot police.

Tensions escalated quickly when the rowdy group, chanting "Death to enemies!" "Convict out!" "Bandits out!" attempted to break through police barricades using the front loader. Police responded with flash grenades and tear gas, eventually pushing protesters back.

Within minutes, hundreds more arrived on the scene. Police reformed and prepared for the next attempt, which proved again to be unsuccessful. Meanwhile, the crowd continued to grow.

With tensions reaching a boiling point, parliamentarian and businessman Petro Poroshenko jumped in to calm the crowd. Speaking through a megaphone atop the bulldozer, he said that opposition leaders did not want to storm the building and that paid provocateurs had been sent here especially to fight with police.

"There 1,500 titushki (hired thugs) who are armed and are here as provocateurs," he said. Some responded to his words by throwing candy at him, a jab to his owning the country's largest confectionery, Roshen. He asked that protesters rejoin the peaceful demonstration on Independence Square.

At the same time world boxing champion and leader of the opposition UDAR party Vitaly Klitschko, who was in a different part of the city but following developments on Bankova, condemned the attempt to storm the president's office and denounced it as an effort to provoke the government into declaring a state of emergency.

But their messages fell on the deaf ears of men who'd come with one purpose in mind: to take over the President Yanukovych's office.

Slava, a young man who carried a can of pepper spray and said he did not want to give his last name for fear of repercussions, said that the group was determined to get inside. "We will take it. He (Yanukovych) is a criminal and traitor," he said.

Around 4 p.m. protesters and police forces exchanged blows. Stun grenades flashed all around and successively, tear gas filled the street and those who weren't wearing protective masks retreated to Institutka Street some 100 meters back. In the calm between clashes, a protester walked through the crowd holding up a helmet with a broken visor that he had seized, inciting loud cheers from the others. It continued like this for nearly an hour before police finally – indiscriminately and brutally – were able to disperse the demonstrators.

Even as they fled, police chased down and beat protesters, including those not involved in the attacks on police. Video filmed by Channel 5 shows numerous members of the special police force beating with batons the protesters, some of which had already been knocked down.

In all, dozens of people were carried to a nearby makeshift medical center with scrapes and chemical burns while those with more serious injuries were taken away by ambulance. The Kyiv Post witnessed at least three protesters with bloody head wounds and many more gasping for breath on the street between gas attacks by police.

The Kyiv Post also suffered from the gas attacks but received help from volunteer medics standing nearby.

According to media reports, at least 30 journalists were wounded in the clashes, including a Euronews reporter whose camera was also broken by police.

PHOTO — KONSTYANTYN CHERNYCHKIN

Demonstrators clash with special police units on Bankova Street near the Presidential Administration in Kyiv on Dec. 1.

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Rectors' visit gives new impetus for academic exchanges

(CIUS)—On November 22–23, delegates from three Ukrainian universities, Drs. Ihor A. Girka (Vice-Rector and Dean of the School of Physics and Technology, V. N. Karazin National University of Kharkiv), Pavlo Khobzey (Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Ukrainian Catholic University, Lviv), and Serhiy Kvit (Rector, Kyiv-Mohyla Academy National University), visited the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan University. The visit to Edmonton was part of a cross-Canada series of working visits and events organized by the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE). One of the chief purposes of the visit was to promote academic ties between Ukrainian universities and their Canadian counterparts.

On their first day in Edmonton, the three visitors went to the U of A. Here, accompanied by Drs. Katelyn Petersen (U of A International), Bohdan Klid and Roman I. Shiyan (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, CIUS), the Ukrainian delegates held a morning meeting with CIUS director Professor Volodymyr Kravchenko and staff, where they were informed of the Institute's work, especially its activities in Ukraine.

Later that morning, the three Ukrainian visitors held discussions with the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Lesley Cormack, on prospects of joint programs, joint degrees, a summer school in Ukraine, and student exchanges. In order to provide a legal basis for further cooperation, involving such undertakings as exchanges and visits of university instructors and students, joint research and publications, jointly organized seminars and conferences, exchanges of materials and other information, a Memorandum of Understanding between the V. N. Karazin National University of Kharkiv and the U of A was signed by Dr. Girka and Dr. Martin Ferguson-Pell, Acting Provost and Vice-President (Academic) of the U of A, at a ceremony in the late afternoon of November 22.

In an afternoon meeting with U of A faculty members involved in Ukrainian studies, the Ukrainian guests discussed challenges and opportunities in this important field. Among the participants in this meeting were Professors Olenka Bilash (Secondary Education), Andriy Nachachewsky (Kule Folklore Centre), Natalia Pylypiuk (Modern Languages and Cultural Studies (MLCS), and Alla Nedashkivska (MLCS; ULEC at CIUS).

At another afternoon meeting, the Ukrainian guests discussed with Doug Weir, Executive Director of Student Programs and Services, prospects of student exchanges between the three Ukrainian universities and the U of A.

In the evening, Drs. Ihor Girka, Pavlo Khobzey, and Serhiy Kvit took part in a community forum on "New Developments in Exchanges between Universities of Canada and Ukraine" co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Resource and Development Centre (URDC) at Grant MacEwan and St. John's Institute. The three delegates discussed topics related to their academic expertise, as well as activities and plans of their respective institutions. Their presentations were of great interest to members of Edmonton's Ukrainian community.

The following day, Drs. Kvit and Khobzey were hosted by Dr. Roman Petryshyn, director of the URDC at Grant MacEwan University. That afternoon, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Grant MacEwan and the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy National University.

Dr. Girka remained at the U of A, where he met with scholars engaged in scientific research and teaching. During his meeting with Professor Gino Fallone, Dr. Girka discussed the importance and prospects of medical physics in Ukraine, as well as arrangements for training specialists in this important field in Canada who would then return and work in their homeland. Dr. Girka also held meetings with Drs. Andriy Kovalenko (Senior Research Officer, National Institute of Nanotechnology), Richard D. Sydora (Department of Physics), and Ioanis Nikolaidis (Computing Science Department).

Overall, it is hoped that this visit will lead to cooperation between Canadian and Ukrainian universities, in particular between the U of A and the V. N. Karazin National University of Kharkiv.

Zozulya stars as Dnipro see off Pandurii

(UEFA)—FC Dnipro Dnipropetrovsk maintained their hopes of finishing top of UEFA Europa League Group E with a 4-1 win against CS Pandurii Târgu Jiu, Nov. 28.

Dnipro were already qualified and Pandurii eliminated prior to Thursday's meeting in Ukraine, and the result was rarely in doubt. Roman Zozulya was the hosts' driving force throughout, registering one and playing a role in the other three, scored by Nikola Kalinić, Yevhen Shakhov and Serhiy Kravchenko. The Romanians briefly threatened to launch a comeback when Eric Pereira struck from the penalty spot.

The tone, though, was set after only 12 minutes, Kalinić swivelling smartly to finish emphatically after Zozulya had chested down Alexander Kobakhidze's cross. Zozulya and Kalinić were to prove a potent combination throughout and both went close again before the break. Visiting goalkeeper Pedro Mingote should also have been required on the stroke of half-time, but Kravchenko side-footed over following Kalinić's deft stepover.

It was little surprise that it was Zozulya who doubled Dnipro's advantage 11 minutes after the interval. The sprightly Ukrainian international raced onto Kravchenko's through ball, rounded Mingote and stroked into the empty net.

That seemed to signal the end of Pandurii's challenge, yet they were back in the game with 20 minutes left. Substitute Oleksandr Svatok was adjudged to have fouled Admir Adrović and Pereira converted unerringly from the spot.

Zozulya would have had a late second himself had it not been for Mingote's smart stop, but he nevertheless had plenty of say in the closing exchanges. It was the Dnipro No18's strength and awareness that played in substitute Shakhov for his team's third – and his persistence that led to Kravchenko rifling in the final goal of the night.

Chornomorets down Dinamo to set up PSV decider

(UEFA)—FC Chornomorets Odesa kept alive their hopes of qualification from UEFA Europa League Group B with a 2-1 victory against already eliminated GNK Dinamo Zagreb, Nov. 28.

Despite having been knocked out courtesy of a 2-0 defeat at PSV Eindoven last time out, Dinamo started brightly and forged ahead through Fatos Bećiraj. The Croatian champions spurned chances to extend their lead before Olexiy Antonov equalised and Anatoliy Didenko touched in an added-time winner to set up a must-win decider against PSV. Dinamo conclude their campaign at home to section winners PFC Ludogorets Razgrad.

While the visitors began at an impressive pace, Chornomorets' Sito Riera produced an excellent drop of the shoulder to get away from his marker and find forward Franck Dja Djedje who failed to direct his header on target. The hosts were made to pay for that miss in the 20th minute when Ivo Pinto raced past Pavlo Kutas and picked out Bećiraj with a cross that the Montenegrin international turned into the bottom left-hand corner.

Alen Halilović continued to threaten for Dinamo, but it was Bećiraj who had the best opportunity to double their advantage. The 25-year-old raced onto a long ball and tried to dink his finish over Dmytro Bezotosnyi, only for the Chornomorets No1 to stick up his right arm and divert the ball wide. Bećiraj and Bezotosnyi resumed their duel 13 minutes from time. The goalkeeper repelled a fiercely struck volley, though, and the Ukrainian side raced up the other end where substitute Didenko's strike was deflected agonisingly wide.

However, from the resulting corner Markus Berger flicked the ball on at the near post and Antonov timed his run perfectly to nod in an equaliser from close range. With the game seemingly headed for a draw, another corner proved Dinamo's undoing. Volodymyr Priyomov's delivery one minute into added time was touched in by Didenko to earn Chornomorets their first home success in the group.

Genk comeback flattens Dynamo

(UEFA)—KRC Genk will go through to the UEFA Europa League round of 32 as Group G winners after coming from a goal down to beat FC Dynamo Kyiv 3-1 in a pulsating game, Nov. 28.

All the goals were scored in an action-packed first half in Belgium. Andriy Yarmolenko got the ball rolling for Dynamo in the ninth minute, but once Jelle Vossen had equalised with a 17th-minute penalty Genk never looked back. Two goals in the space of three minutes late in the opening period from Bennard Kumordzi and early substitute Benjamin De Ceulaer ensured Genk matched last season's achievement of advancing top of their section.

Yarmolenko made the most of a lucky break to give Dynamo the lead when his attempted pass rebounded off home defender Serigne Mbodji straight back to the winger to leave him a simple near-post finish.

Genk captain Vossen powered the equalising spot kick down the middle after Yevhen Khacheridi had gone in late on Kumordzi in the area. Dynamo midfielder Miguel Veloso then struck the crossbar with a splendid swerving volley before Genk went in front from the move of the match. Thomas Buffel's cross from the right was met by a cushioned Vossen header back across goal and Kumordzi was on hand to tap in.

De Ceulaer – on for Fabien Camus – was credited with Genk's third as Mario Been's men tightened their grip, even if he did not know too much about it as Julien Gorius's corner hit his body and the ball flew past Maxym Koval.

Despite much enterprising football after the interval there was to be no addition to the scoreline. Dynamo remain second in the group, the Ukrainians requiring a point at home to SK Rapid Wien in the final round of fixtures to make sure they join Genk in the knockout stage.

FIFA sanctions for discrimination upheld

(FIFA.com)—The FIFA Appeal Committee on Nov. 27 decided to reject the appeal lodged by the Football Federation of Ukraine (FFU) and confirm the decisions rendered by the FIFA Disciplinary Committee with regard to the FFU on Sept. 27 in their entirety.

As such, the next home match of the "A" representative team of Ukraine in the preliminary competition for the 2018 FIFA World Cup Russia™ will be played without spectators. In addition, the "A" representative team is banned from playing in the Arena Lviv stadium for the duration of the same competition. The FFU is also ordered to pay a fine of CHF 45,000 and has been warned as to its future conduct.

The sanctions imposed by the Disciplinary Committee relate to incidents that took place during the preliminary competition match for the 2014 FIFA World Cup Brazil™ between Ukraine and San Marino, played in Lviv, Ukraine on 6 September 2013. After receiving a report by FARE (Football Against Racism in Europe), the committee agreed that the offensive and discriminatory actions of a group of Ukrainian supporters were shameful and a clear breach of the FIFA Disciplinary Code.

FIFA is committed to fighting all forms of discrimination in football and works closely with its member associations around the world to educate and inspire a message of equality and respect. The creation of the FIFA Task Force Against Racism and Discrimination by FIFA President Blatter in early March 2013 was a key step in the ongoing fight against discrimination. FIFA also insists on strict punishments to send out a strong message that discrimination has no place in the game.

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Editor and Staff of Ukrainian News

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PHOTO — MARCO LEVYTSKY

Dec. 1 demonstration at Sir Winston Churchill Square in Edmonton

Edmontonians condemn Berkut brutality

By Marco Levytsky

Over 300 gathered at Edmonton's Sir Winston Churchill Square Dec 1 to denounce special unit Berkut police violence against peaceful protesters in Kyiv and show support for Ukraine's European aspirations.

Waving placards and Ukrainian flags amidst shouts of "han'ba" (shame) participants cheered as Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Olesia Luciw thanked the government of Canada "for their strong condemnation of the actions by the government of Ukraine and their call for the Ukrainian government to respect and indeed protect the rights of its citizens to express their opinions freely, consistent with the OSCE or Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe principles."

"We ask all western governments to immediately impose targeted economic sanctions against those individuals responsible for these human rights abuses in Ukraine, including the freezing of assets and restrictions on visas.

"We urge the Ukrainian authorities to investigate and prosecute those who executed these acts against the people of Ukraine. We call upon the resignation of the authorities in Ukraine who have deliberately acted against the will and interest of Ukrainians.

"We call upon Russia to step aside. Stop your bullying and pulling the strings of your puppet! Yanukovych may be Putin's Puppet but Hands off Ukraine! This political and economic coercion must stop!

"Canada we call upon you to condemn the Russian Federation for engaging in political and economic coercion against Ukraine. Canada, take a stand at the Ministerial Conference of the OSCE in Kyiv on December 5-6, 2013, in which Ukraine holds the chairmanship.

Alberta Deputy Premier Thomas Lukaszuk recalled his time in Kyiv in December, 2004, "watching as an outsider the Orange Revolution, and then I thought to myself that never again should there be a time in Ukraine that protests would have to be sparked in favour of democracy, but unfortunately that wasn't so."

He said Canada was one of the first countries to recognize the independence of Ukraine. "But recognizing the independence of Ukraine is not enough," he told the crowd. "Maintaining the independence and self-determination of Ukraine is what we have to support."

An emotional Luba Feduschak, President of UCC Edmonton said we "cannot and will not condone the violence that we are seeing on TV but we will support the people of Ukraine through peaceful rallies at venues such as this one today that are happening across the country .

"As we watch how this crisis is unfolding and read what continues to occur in Ukrayina we pray for the safety of our brothers and sisters as they are once again being challenged in the road to full democracy."

Speaking on behalf of the League of Ukrainians in Canada, Taras Podilsky listed a number of demands including:

- The resignation of the Azarov government;
- The resignation of President Viktor Yanukovych;
- The freezing of all assets of Yanukovych and his ruling clan;
- Limiting of diplomatic ties with a now illegitimate president of Ukraine;
- A stop to brutal and violent attacks by all police and troops on the peaceful protesters; and
- The signing of the association treaty with the European Union.

Representing the Ukrainian Youth Organization CYM Yuri Broda said the brutal beating of peaceful protesters expressing their desire to integrate into the European Union contravenes all international norms of human rights and freedom.

"The Yanukovych regime has conclusively demonstrated that it would rather descend into authoritarianism and brutality, as practiced by the dictators and strongmen of the world, than lead its country into a better future where democratic and economic freedoms are protected, human rights are sacred and the rule of law is paramount.

"Our Canadian Government has once again shown great leadership in their strong condemnation of the actions by the government of Ukraine. We call upon all civilized governments of this world to join us in condemning these acts and demand that Ukraine's governing authorities immediately cease such violations of human rights and freedom. Those who authorized and executed these acts of violence must be brought to justice, and those authorities in Ukraine who have deliberately acted against the will and interests of the Ukrainian people must resign."

Speaking on behalf of the Ukrainian Self-Reliance League of Canada, Emil Yereniuk noted that: "We are here because we need to assist Ukrainians in obtaining the standards of Democracy that are taken for granted in most Western Nations. We want the Ukrainian government to respect the Rights of Civil Society and the Principles of Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Assembly. This is not happening today in Ukraine.

"I urge you all to speak with your MLA's, MP's and government officials and stress the seriousness of the situation in Ukraine.

"Lastly, I call on the Canadian Government and all other governments around the world to stand and protect Ukraine against Russia's economic and political pressure."

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Edmonton's Ukrainian diaspora watching turmoil back home

By Brent Wittmeier, *Edmonton Journal November 27, 2013*

The eyes of Edmonton's Ukrainian community are firmly on Independence Square.

On Nov. 24, roughly 150 members of Edmonton's Ukrainian diaspora gathered in Churchill Square in solidarity with student-led rallies. Olesia Luciw-Andryjowycz, president of Alberta's Ukrainian Canadian Congress (UCC), said the protest goes beyond partisan politics within the country.

"Everybody was thinking this was the right move," said Luciw-Andryjowycz. "They thought this was the natural progression."

Alberta has over 300,000 citizens of Ukrainian descent. While the first waves were pioneers, recent years have seen fourth and fifth waves, new immigrants and temporary foreign workers who work in the oilsands, meat-packing plants and other industries. For them, Luciw-Andryjowyc says the end of negotiations is like "going backwards in time," a rejection of judicial reforms that would transform the country.

Jars Balan was an independent observer during the 2004 Orange Revolution, which overturned a rigged election and brought a pro-Western government to power. On Dec. 26, 2004, the co-ordinator of the University of Alberta's Kule Ukrainian Canadian Studies Centre ended up in Independence Square, where he watched future prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko give a barn-burning speech.

Nearly nine years later, opinion is divided by demographics and regions. The economic situation is unstable, an eastern-friendly government is in power, and Tymoshenko is in prison, a sticking point in negotiations with the EU. But there are also live feeds of the square, social media has exploded, and children who grew up during the Orange Revolution are now political actors.

"Most of us check in every hour or two to see what the latest developments are," said Balan. "We've been watching on tenterhooks, following this closely for months."

Balan chairs the Canada-Ukraine committee of the UCC, which advises Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs. There's still hope of renewed talks and a springtime agreement with the EU, he says, so the UCC is advising the government not to overreact by issuing a condemnation of the Ukrainian government.

"They're obviously still dithering and manoeuvring in a shrinking space," Balan said. "We're encouraging patience at this particular moment. It might be necessary to adopt a different line, depending on how things turn out."

Some worry about revolution, others a return to an authoritarian regime. But Balan has witnessed a sense of optimism in his return trips to the country. In Ukraine, he says, anything can happen.

PHOTO — IVAN LYPOVYK

Nov. 24 demonstration at Sir Winston Churchill Square in Edmonton

Interior minister justifies police attacks to US, EU ambassadors

By Katya Gorchinskaya, *Kyiv Post, Dec. 1, 2013*

Despite clear video and eyewitness evidence of excessive use of force by the police in breaking up a peaceful pro-European demonstration on Nov. 30, Interior Minister Vitaliy Zakharchenko told American and European ambassadors to Ukraine that the police were provoked by protesters.

Zakharchenko also showed them video footage filmed by the law enforcers, according to his ministry's statement.

"Police understand well that citizens have a right to peacefully express their opinions and gather for peaceful meetings. Police do not fight with the population which is standing for its rights without breaking the law," Zakharchenko told the ambassadors during the meeting, to which he was accompanied by Foreign Minister Leonid Kozhara. The meeting was requested by the ambassadors.

Police forcefully dispersed a peaceful demonstration in the early hours of Nov. 30. At least 35 people were admitted to emergency rooms in the morning with injuries, and dozens were arrested and released later.

The ambassadors did not seem convinced that the police action was justified. In his own statement, European Union Ambassador Jan Tombinski said there was "excessive use of force against peaceful demonstrators who were making use of their right to peaceful assembly."

The ambassadors said that they "made a call for an open, impartial and in-depth investigation to clearly establish the facts and determine responsibilities." Zakharchenko promised that such an investigation will be conducted.

PHOTO – ZENON ZAWADA

The last 1,000 words

They say one picture is worth a thousand words. In this case, we believe it's even more. This photo by Kyiv freelancer and former Bureau Chief for The Ukrainian Weekly, Zenon Zawada, says it all. (For those who can't read Ukrainian, the name on the statue is Lenin)

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